

# Soldiers



The Official U.S. Army Magazine

August 2001

## New Secretary of the Army White

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### When Germany Was Divided

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### Guiding Soldiers' Careers

New Hot Topics  
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PAGE 9

# Soldiers

August 2001 Volume 56, No. 8



## The Official U.S. Army Magazine

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Because no excuse is good enough when telling someone that a loved one has died, the Army is renewing its drive for risk management.

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### Front cover:

1LT Thomas E. White was a platoon leader in Vietnam with Aero Rifle Platoon, Air Cavalry Troop, 11th Armd. Cav. Regiment. —  
Photo courtesy Thomas E. White

## From the Editor

When this month's cover photo of 1LT Thomas E. White on patrol with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam was taken in 1969, White didn't know two things: that he would become the 18th secretary of the Army and what his headgear would come to represent.

The new secretary leads our Army as it passes through a critical phase of transformation — from the conceptual to the actual. When soldiers donned the black beret on the Army's birthday, it symbolized the end of talking about transformation and the beginning of living it.

In her exclusive profile of White, *Soldiers'* award-winning journalist Beth Reece introduces us to the only Regular Army general officer to become the secretary of the Army. She reveals the soldier behind the suit and gives us a glimpse of what's ahead.

As a fifth-generation Texan, I grew up in an environment with no shortage of colorful euphemisms. The cover of this issue of *Hot Topics* on risk management reminds me of one such saying: be careful or you'll wake up dead — truly words to live by.

*John C. Suttle*

## Black Berets

I AM with the 40th Military Police Detachment at Fort Sill, Okla. Can we wear the military police regimental crest on our berets? I'm hoping our crest falls under the distinctive unit insignia category.

*Name Withheld by Request via e-mail*

*MSG Kittie L. Messman, the DCSPER uniform specialist, responds: "Regimental distinctive insignia is not authorized for wear on the beret flash; only the distinctive unit insignia (unit crest) is authorized for wear. Therefore, whatever DUI you currently wear on the garrison cap and on the epaulets of your Class A coat will be worn on the flash. For more information, visit our uniform Web page at: [www.odcspcr.army.mil/default.asp?pageid=69f](http://www.odcspcr.army.mil/default.asp?pageid=69f)."*

I WAS reading the May "Hot Topics" pullout, trying to learn more about the standards for the beret, having never worn one before, and noticed something that I need more clarification on.

On page 5, one of the questions reads: "When wearing the beret with the Class A and B uniforms, do soldiers blouse their trousers and wear boots?" The answer given was: "Only military police and soldiers assigned to air-assault coded positions or ranger, airborne and special forces units may blouse their trousers with boots." Can you please clarify what you mean by air-assault coded positions?

Thanks and keep up the good work.

*Ssg Douglas R. Krause  
Iowa Army National Guard  
via e-mail*

*MSG Kittie Messman explains: Certain soldiers are in positions*

## Awesome Photo

SFC Brenda Benner's picture, on page 4 in the June issue of *Soldiers*, of paratroops jumping from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter would make an AWESOME pop-out poster for your magazine! If not, can you send me the picture electronically so I can take it to a printer to make a poster? Airborne!



*Mike Sparks  
via e-mail*

*YOUR request has been forwarded to the Electronic Imaging Branch for processing.*

## PS: Yes; Pinups: No

WALKING through the Pentagon recently, I chanced upon the rack at the end of Corridor 6 where copies of *Soldiers* are available to anyone passing by. I picked up copies of the May and June issues, the first I've read in several years. It was good to see what you've done with the magazine since the last time I was a regular reader.

I especially liked the 50th anniversary look back at PS magazine ("PS: Happy Birthday") in the June edition and the 55-year retrospective on *Soldiers* ("A Story of Change") in the May issue. Both magazines are treasured memories of my time in the Army.

One small complaint, however. The story on PS was forthright in discussing Connie Rodd's transformation from pinup-styled siren to professional civilian adviser to the Army's maintenance workforce. The story on *Soldiers* (and its predecessor, *Army Digest*), is a lot less candid about one of its favorite features of times long gone, the pinup.

The inside back cover used to be the first page most GIs turned to when a new issue of *Army Digest* hit the street. While it was more than appropriate to discontinue the pinup in the early '70s, it does seem sad that it didn't even merit a mention in a story about the magazine's proud history.

*COL James H. Kurtz (Ret.)  
Fairfax, Va.*

*WHILE the main story did not elaborate on the pinup's demise, the timeline on page 41 noted that the last pinup appeared in the March 1980 issue of *Soldiers*.*

*coded air assault, although the units themselves are not air assault.*

*I ONCE wore the black beret for*

*a short period of time — in the late '70s, when I first entered the Army. I'm not sure when it was first worn, but the black beret was worn by both armor*

and cavalry soldiers. Unfortunately, in 1979 we were told to put OUR black berets to rest. I don't recall a great deal of sniveling coming from the ranks of armor or cavalry units. Just curious as to why the rangers felt they needed to be exclusive and be the only ones to wear it.

SFC J.D. Callahan  
via e-mail

## Army Linguists

YOUR May photos of the eager young linguists in training brought back a lot of memories. I went through the DLI Arabic Basic Course prior to my actual 98G MOS training at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.

Ironically, back in my day, in 1989 — despite there having been eight years of fighting between Iran and Iraq — it was not until just prior to shipping off for Operation Desert Shield that

I ever had even a fleeting exposure to Iraqi dialect. We all more or less had to become experts overnight, but for the most part the signals intelligence collected during the Gulf War was gleaned by native speakers culled from other MOSs and pressed into 98G slots.

During the Gulf War I mainly served as a translator for U.S. commanders whenever we needed to coordinate anything with our Arabic-speaking coalition partners, but I also helped process a busload of Iraqi POWs once my unit got into Kuwait City. The high point of my time in Saudi Arabia, however, was helping the special forces teams conduct MOUT training with Kuwaitis at King Khalid Military City.

Of course once the Desert Storm cease-fire was declared I, like most military linguists, returned once again to my pre-war duties — few of which had

anything to do with my MOS or language proficiency maintenance. Is it any wonder then why linguist retention remains a weak point for the army?

Name Withheld by Request  
via e-mail

## Brady Photo

YOUR Matthew Brady photo on the inside back page of the May issue is, I believe, miscaptioned. That waterfront is Yorktown, Va., on the York River. Supplies amassed from McClellan's Fort Monroe were to be shipped to Richmond by way of West Point, Va. The Confederates evacuated Yorktown in 1862, and the Union forces moved in.

The house and barn in the photo are those of William

Rogers. The warehouses in the distance were for tobacco storage, and ground Indian corn, until ships arrived for return to Europe in an earlier century. It was earlier than 1864, I believe. The Brady team shot a lot of photos in Yorktown. Let me know please if it is otherwise. A couple of books are wrong if so.

Dick Ivy  
via e-mail

WHILE our error was innocent, in that the photo we received was captioned "City Point" and included "U.S. Army photo" and a file number (SC 320494), it appears you are right. A similar photo and bibliographic text on the Internet seem to confirm your information. Thank you for the correction.

**Soldiers** is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a post card will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: **Feedback, Soldiers**, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581, or e-mail: [soldiers@belvoir.army.mil](mailto:soldiers@belvoir.army.mil).



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11/05







White (*center*) sees wisdom in Army Chief of Staff GEN Eric K. Shinseki's (*right*) plans to transform the Army to a lighter, more strategic force.



# Introducing Army Secretary Thomas E. White

Story by Beth Reece Photos by SSG Jack Siemieniec

**L**IKE soldiers do, and always with pleasure, Thomas E. White Jr. swaps stories. He tells of 1966, West Point. The football team is coming off a lousy season and spirits are rotten. The Batman theme warbles over loudspeakers while a lean figure in a black mask leaps across the field. Behind his shoulders billows a cape with “Army” stitched across it in heavy script. The daredevil is Cadet White, rallying schoolmates into frenzied cheers. Come winter’s end, the team is 8 and 2.

Sometimes that former cadet — now Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White — will talk of Vietnam or about the Army’s disorganization and despair following the war. But he favors a story of rebirth, when the war ended and a fiery spirit of renewal flourished among those swept up in the chore of rebuilding the Army. “With Desert Storm, Saddam found out just what a good job we had done in that transformation,” White said.

And like any true soldier, White will gladly tell why — after 11 years out of the Army — you can’t take the Army out of him. “It’s the people. I love the people,” he said.

Such kinship and conviction to the oath he made to Uncle Sam 34 years ago have lured the old soldier back home, back to the Pentagon’s halls and conference rooms, “to the greatest Army on earth,” he said.

“I am so absolutely proud to be your secretary, to be back with you, to be a part of the Army again,” the retired brigadier general told graduates of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy May 30 during his first call with soldiers as the Army’s 18th secretary. White’s visit was his way of telling noncommissioned officers that they matter to him, and to the Army.

## An Old Soldier Returns



**Eager to get on with the important matters — people — White inprocessed with the help of administrative assistant Joel B. Hudson while on a flight to Washington.**

The secretary's attraction to the Army is inherited from two uncles, through whom White saw "the military side of things" during their careers in the National Guard. Knowingly dating himself, the 57-year-old spoke of "West Point Story," a popular '50s TV show and movie that lured him into the Army's officer ranks.

Commitment never panicked White, whose patriotic core has long been hooked to the desire to affect things that better America and nurture its people. "The fact that the Army and the armed forces are responsible for the security of the country, and therefore guarantee the special liberties that we enjoy, was always very appealing to me. I wanted to be a part of that."

White entered West Point from the streets of Detroit, Mich., at age 19. Craving captain's bars and the colonel's bird like any rookie cadet, White never imagined he'd wear general's stars and eventually emerge as the Army's senior civilian. But when duty calls, White answers.

The former cavalryman tells soldiers that he considers meeting their needs to be a sacred trust, and he knows what his followers want. "I raised a family under many of the same conditions as today's soldiers. I

have a kindred spirit with them in doing something about the conditions that our families live in," he said.

During the year he attended flight school, White's children and wife, Susan, moved five times. From Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to Germany, they nested in a variety of military homes, some barely tolerable, some comfortable. Their three children — Army brats Tom, Chuck and Katie — attended Department of Defense-run schools. And like today's career soldiers answering the nation's higher call, he raised a family on 23 years of military pay. "God knows we don't do

this for the money," he said.

White plunged into corporate America after serving as the executive assistant to former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff GEN Colin Powell, from 1989 to 1990. He returns to his Army roots from the office of the vice chairman of Enron Energy Services — a company that has been repeatedly rated by Fortune magazine as the most innovative company in America.

Though many will agree with Texas Sen. Phil Gramm's view that White is the kind of top hand who manages people and resources with instinctual finesse, White will say his desire to know and understand people is a blessing that binds him to the fiber of leadership.

"I've always thought that the bedrock characteristic of a good leader was that you had to like people," he said. "If you like people, you'll take the time to understand them. You'll engage them, and that's the only way to be an effective leader. For all of these years, one of my strengths is that I truly do like people."

With soldiers and families first, White promises his share of sweat in assuring readiness. Slick equipment and exact technology are obvious musts in the modernization race, he





said, but so are unit stability and operational tempo. Soldiers and commanders are right to demand time to train and time to be with their families and, in an era when America remains unscathed by war, it is up to White and his peers, he said, to settle the uncertainty of ambiguous threats, to outline national strategy in the finer terms that soldiers need to assure a sharp, skilled state.

*"The fact that the Army and the armed forces are responsible for the security of the country, and therefore guarantee the special liberties that we enjoy, was always very appealing to me. I wanted to be a part of that."*



The secretary meets costumed members of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) after a recent Twilight Tattoo performance in Washington, D.C.

The secretary sees wisdom in Chief of Staff of the Army GEN Eric K. Shinseki's design to transform the service. White says change is everyday Army business, and that the urgency to change was titanic when the United States withdrew from Vietnam in 1973. Because the Army revamped and redefined its might then, today it drenches foreign armies in green envy.

"But there can be a tendency, when you're number one, to think that you can stay fat, dumb and happy for the foreseeable future," White said, his foot tapping the floor to punctuate his belief that tomorrow's Army will be irrelevant without transformation now. "Transformation is not optional. You have to get in it. And if you get in it, and if you commit yourself, it's going to be fun."

The secretary's closet exposes a preference for cheerful ties, but his prize hat is black. Rummaging through old photographs before his move to Washington, D.C., White shuffled to a worn image of himself as a platoon leader in Vietnam. "And what I had on my head in this picture is a black beret, because that's what we wore in the 11th Armored Cavalry

## Four Objectives

SECRETARY of the Army Thomas E. White plans to pursue four objectives while working with the president and secretary of defense to make the Army's vision a reality.

◆ White's first objective is to invest in people. "We must attract, develop and retain America's best and brightest," he said at his May 10 confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

◆ Assuring readiness is his second objective. "Today, the pace of change is faster and conditions more uncertain than ever," he said. Assuring readiness means a modernization of equipment and weapons, integrating the active and reserve components, and managing the mission cycle of units to improve the operational and personnel tempo of people and systems.

◆ Transformation of the Army is White's third objective. That will require changes in doctrine, organization, training, leadership, equipment, recruiting, acquisition and infrastructure.

◆ White's final objective is to adopt sound business practices. "We owe it to every American to improve the manner in which we use our resources," he said. "And we owe it to every American to give our soldiers the capabilities they need to fight, win and live to fight again." —Beth Reece

Regiment in those days, and particularly in the Aerial Rifle Platoon."

White finds it sad that talk of tomorrow's Army has dwindled to chatter about a hat. But any soldier who has heard the secretary speak knows this month he'll join many of the living members of his Vietnam platoon at Fort Myer, Va., to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Black Horse Regiment.

"When all of us beat-up old guys



**White learns about Fort Bliss, Texas, from the post commander, BG Stanley E. Green, as SMA Jack L. Tilley (second from left) and post CSM Mark C. Avery (third from left) look on.**

**The secretary tells soldiers he understands firsthand the quality-of-life needs of soldiers and their families. His wife, Susan, and three children lived in military housing throughout America and overseas.**

tell our war stories and gather to share the camaraderie that only soldiers can share — and particularly soldiers who have shared a combat experience — we won't be wearing baseball caps." Nor will they wear dress caps or garrison caps. "We'll wear black berets — guaranteed."

White wants the new berets, branded a symbol of transformation by Shinseki, to be produced in U.S. textile factories. And why not make the hat a symbol of pride for all Americans? "We can erect brass plaques on the walls of these industries that will read: 'We make the berets for the finest Army in the world,'" White said.

A seasoned businessman, the secretary wants to initiate aggressive outsourcing into the civilian sector that will afford soldiers the quality of life they and their families deserve.

"If you look around the Army you'll see bits and pieces of it here and there ... privatization of family housing. What a tremendous idea!" He asks if building and running housing units are core competencies of the Army. "Of course not. So why don't we go get the major property develop-



*"Taking care of soldiers and families is imperative and we will adjust the pace of transformation to accommodate what we need to do for soldiers and their families."*

ers to compete for this business? Let them bring private capital to this thing" while soldiers get attractive facilities.

In the balance between people and transformation, the secretary's public statements have always put the soldier first.

"If we don't do the former — taking care of soldiers and families — then you can forget about the latter as far as I'm concerned," he said. Motivation and fun are hallmarks of the messages White delivers as he travels around installations. Soldiers laugh at his stories, and their ears perk up as he describes change, beckoning them to accept their roles as positive players.

Mentoring is the cardinal duty he anticipates from every leader. "Any successful NCO or officer has had a number of mentors along the way," White said, explaining that his leaders took time to appreciate him as a person, beyond the blanket description of "soldier."

"It allowed them to tailor their advice to me in a way that was relevant, and it also allowed them to predict where I would screw up," he said with a laugh. "They tried to limit the damage of my bad ideas and also open the doors for me to find other opportunities." Those mentors expect their invested time to pay off, White figures now, and "I will deliver."

Teetering "between middle and old age" — a point at which White said his sons believe he's no longer capable of serving as a bad example — White denies ever thinking he'd reach his current peak. "Heavens no. My aspiration was to command the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment and I got that opportunity from '86 to '88."

A 1967 West Point yearbook leans on a high shelf in the Pentagon library. At the top left corner near the back is a picture of Tom White — his adolescent skin smooth, his smile politely subdued. It reads: "A wonderful future waits" for the man with a "golden voice, wild sense of humor and proven ability." □



The new a la carte system allows customers to purchase individual items at reduced prices at selected facilities throughout the Army.

**Washington, D.C.**

## Some Dining Facilities Go A la carte

ARMY dining facilities are giving their customers the chance to eat less and pay less.

The new a la carte system allows customers to purchase individual items at reduced prices, said Tobias Ostrawski, a dining-facility specialist at the Army Center of Excellence, Subsistence, at Fort Lee, Va.

"Instead of feeding the masses, we are focusing on serving customers," said CW2 Eric Persons, the major-command food adviser for the Military District of Washington.

Installations that have implemented the a la carte system in the majority of their dining facilities are Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Carson, Colo.; Fort Drum, N.Y.; Fort Monroe, Va.; and the Presidio of Monterey, Calif. Fort Knox, Ky., opened the first a la carte facility seven

years ago. Ostrawski said there are 13 other installations that have an a la carte dining facility but have not totally discontinued the traditional dining service.

The a la carte system for the most part affects senior enlisted soldiers, officers and department of the Army civilians, who must pay to eat in Army facilities, Ostrawski said. Soldiers with meal cards will continue to eat with no out-of-pocket expenses.

Persons said individuals who pay for their meals usually spend less with the new system. Since dining facilities are not trying to make a profit, but to break even, soldiers with meal cards are asked not to take extra food, he said. — *Army News Service*

**Washington, D.C.**

## DOD Runs Spouse Job Pilot Program

MILITARY spouses in Europe received a special gift June 1 — more flexible and less restrictive DOD employment options.

Military spouses who participate in a two-year pilot program called MSP Choice are allowed to accept an interim job without losing their rehire preference under the Military Spouse Preference Program, according to DOD Civilian Personnel Policy Office officials.

Spouses of active-duty service members who relocate to a new permanent duty station are entitled to hiring preference as long as they're among the best qualified for the position,

officials said.

In the past, military spouses who took temporary or time-limited jobs lost hiring preference. This meant they couldn't compete if more desirable jobs became available later.

Under MSP Choice — the first significant change in the military spousal-employment provision since 1989 — the spouses lose their spousal preference only if they accept or decline the offer of a permanent full-time or a permanent part-time position. The pilot program applies to all DOD appropriated fund and nonappropriated fund positions in Europe.

Spouses in Europe who lost their preference rights before the pilot program started may be eligible for reinstatement under MSP Choice. Individuals who believe they may be eligible should contact their local human-resources offices.

"MSP is restricted to employment of military spouses in the European Theater," said civilian personnel policy spokesperson Diane Hart. "There are no plans to start the program in other areas before the test is over."

"We will monitor the European Command policy and continue to review spouse preference to determine if any further modifications are necessary," she said. "As with any pilot program, we need to evaluate its effectiveness and ensure there are no unintended, negative consequences."

Officials said veterans retain initial-employment preference over spouses. So do employees displaced from their positions through no personal cause and employees placed under the DOD Equal Opportunity Employment Program. — *American Forces Press Service*

## Pay Issues

### BAH Increase For Junior Enlisted

SOLDIERS in pay grades E-1 through E-4 who have families and live off post saw an increase in their housing allowance July 1. The boost is the result of legislation aimed at helping junior enlisted families.

On average, those in grades E-1 through E-3 will receive a monthly increase of more than \$50. E-4s will see a monthly boost of about \$11. Rates will remain the same for single service members.

Housing allowances are based on rental costs, so the actual increase will vary, depending on the cost of living in that particular area, said MAJ Leslie Gerald, manager of the compensation and entitlements division of the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel. In most cases, those living in high-cost locations will see larger increases, while allowances will be lower for those living in more affordable areas.

Service members stationed overseas receive their housing allowances under a different system and are not affected by this action.

The new junior enlisted BAH rates were added by Congress to the fiscal year 2001 National Defense Authorization Act. The addition was one of several initiatives designed to aid low-income military families. — *ARNEWS*





Runners from around the world will gather at the Pentagon on Sunday, Oct. 14 to participate in the 17th annual Army Ten-Miler.

## Alexandria, Va.

### MWR Hosts Arts Contest, BOSS Conference

ARMY Arts and Crafts conducts two annual contests: the 2001 All-Army Photography Contest and the 2001 All-Army Fine Arts Contest.

All active-duty and reserve-component soldiers and their families are eligible to participate. Civilians may also compete at installation and major Army command level.

Check with local arts and crafts or MWR staff members for contest rules, guidance and local deadlines. Details are also available at [www.armymwr.com](http://www.armymwr.com). MACOM finalists' entries must be received at the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center by Dec. 15. Judging for both contests is scheduled between January and March 2002.

Also, it's time for all Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers representatives and senior NCO and MWR advisors to get together for annual training. This year's Armywide BOSS conference takes place at the Xerox Document University in

Leesburg, Va., Sept. 9 through 14.

Items on the agenda include a pep talk from SMA Jack Tilley, a session on briefing techniques, the installation BOSS program competition and a recreation programmer's workshop. There will also be updates on new technologies from Natick labs and the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center MWR programs.

This year's theme, "BOSS: Teamwork Makes the Dream Work," reinforces the "for the soldier, by the soldier" concept.

To register for the conference see your local MWR adviser. Information about BOSS and the conference is available on the CFSC home page at [www.armymwr.com](http://www.armymwr.com). Click on "BOSS" under "Recreation" in the front-page menu. — *USACFSC Public Affairs Office*

## Washington, D.C.

### Ten-Miler Applications Due

RUNNERS from around the world will gather at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., on

Sunday, Oct. 14 to participate in the 17th annual Army Ten-Miler.

Recognized by USA Track and Field as the world's largest ten-mile race in 2000, the event is expected to attract 18,000 runners in more than 600 teams in 2001. Approximately 7,400 of the 18,000 runners will be service members.

A new award this year will be presented to the top three male and female Reserve and National Guard teams, and another new team category is the Sergeants Major Masters team competition.

Go to [www.armytenmiler.com](http://www.armytenmiler.com) for information about the

race, registration and associated events. Entry deadline is 5:00 p.m. EST, Sept. 14, or when the runner field reaches 18,000. On-line registration will remain open until the race closes.

The Army Ten-Miler is produced by the Military District of Washington. — *Army Ten-Miler Coordinator*

## Washington, D.C.

### DOD Examines Blood-Donor Rules

THE Department of Defense is working behind the scenes to create a national standard for

## Transformation

### New Transformation Doctrine Issued

TWO new field manuals provide a glimpse of how the Army will operate while transforming into a more strategically responsive and dominant force for the evolving security challenges of the new century.

One manual, FM 1, "The Army," establishes Army doctrine, while FM 3-0, "Operations," establishes how the Army will conduct activities across the full range of military operations.

FM 1 replaces FM 100-1 and FM 3-0 replaces FM 100-5. The new numerical designation reflects the Army's efforts to follow the Department of Defense's system of numbering manuals, officials said.

FM 1 has four main parts: the Army in the profession of arms, how the Army fits into strategic and joint military operations, the Army's core competencies and "the way ahead," or the future of the Army, said COL Neal Anderson, chief of strategic planning, concepts and doctrine with the Army Staff's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans.

FM 3-0, the Army's capstone warfighting manual, establishes doctrine across the range of military operations — peace, conflict and war, Anderson said. It outlines those operations as offensive, defensive, and stability and support operations that can be performed simultaneously, Anderson said.

Linked to FM 1, FM 3-0 will guide the Army as it transforms into a force that will be more responsive, deployable, agile, versatile, lethal, survivable, sustainable and deployable, he said. — *ARNEWS*

collecting blood as the American Red Cross prepares to adopt new donor rules in September.

Red Cross officials have

said the rules stem from concerns about the spread of "mad cow" disease in Europe. The Red Cross plans not to take donations from persons who at

any time since 1980 spend or have spent a cumulative three months or more in the United Kingdom. The restriction also applies to persons who have spent a cumulative six months or more in any of the other European countries or received a blood transfusion in the United Kingdom.

DOD and the Red Cross currently follow the Food and Drug Administration's lead, said COL Mike Fitzpatrick, director of the Armed Services Blood Program. He said the policy for the past two years has been to defer persons indefinitely as donors if they resided in the United Kingdom between 1980 and 1996 for a cumulative six months or more.

The current deferral rule affects 5 percent or less of DOD's donor population worldwide, he estimated. Implementing the Red Cross' new policy throughout Europe would make about 25 percent of the active-duty force ineligible to donate blood, he said.

DOD will continue to follow the FDA guidelines, he said, but the FDA has not agreed to the Red Cross' policy — and two donor standards will be in use unless it does.

DOD collects about 100,000 units of blood per year. It must maintain that rate to have enough blood for troops in Kosovo, Bosnia and other areas where safe supplies would be hard to find and tap, Fitzpatrick said.

The incurable, always-fatal "mad cow" disease is caused

by an infectious protein that destroys the victim's nervous system. Called variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans, the disorder usually kills within 18 months of the onset of symptoms.

Fitzpatrick said there's no evidence the disease is or can be transmitted through a blood transfusion. To date, fewer than 100 cases of variant CJD have been reported since it was identified, and none was the result of a blood transfusion, he said.

The only way the evidence today points to humans contracting variant CJD is by being unusually susceptible to it and eating infected meat. The infectious protein that triggers variant CJD, however, is known to be able to hide for 15 years or more in lymphatic tissue, the appendix, stomach, spleen, white cells and in the blood at

low levels, Fitzpatrick said.

At this time, no blood test exists to detect the presence of the infectious protein, he noted.

The DOD veterinarians re-

sponsible for the wholesomeness of military foods have determined that service members and their families face little risk of contracting variant CJD, he said.

Deployed service members are at less risk than casual travelers in Europe because military personnel eat foods from military supply channels, which don't buy meat from the United Kingdom, Fitzpatrick said. — *American Forces Press Service*

## PERSTEMPO

### LES Shows PERSTEMPO Counter

KEEPING track of how often you are away from home for Army business is now easier, if you are a soldier. Effective with the May end-of-month Leave and Earnings Statement, soldiers started seeing a personnel tempo counter in the remarks section.

Mandated by Congress in the fiscal year 2000 National Defense Authorization Act, all services began tracking individual deployments last October. Service members will be entitled to \$100 per day for every day they are deployed 401 days or more in a rolling 730-day window. The policy applies to both the active and reserve components.

The payment is not intended to provide an additional financial entitlement or incentive for deployment, said CPT Danita Bertone, the Army's PERSTEMPO staff officer with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

The congressional definition of a deployed day is "Any day which, pursuant to orders, the member is performing service in a training exercise, operation, or performing mission-support temporary duty at a location, or under circumstances that make it impossible or infeasible for the member to spend off-duty time in the housing in which the member resides when on garrison duty at the member's permanent duty station."

What counts as deployment days is such overnight events as support operations, exercises, on- and off-post unit training and mission-support temporary duty.

What does not count on the PERSTEMPO clock is disciplinary confinement, absence without leave, school training and leave in conjunction with a deployment event.

Some LESs may not accurately reflect a soldiers' current deployment count. The two most likely reasons for a discrepancy, Bertone said, are that the unit has not entered deployment events in the PERSTEMPO web application, or the soldier is including deployment events that occurred after the "as-of date" of the LES counter. Deployment time prior to Oct. 1 does not count.

Soldiers who believe their LES PERSTEMPO counts are incorrect should contact their unit commanders to review the deployment events they have participated in since Oct. 1, Bertone said.

For more information, visit the PERSTEMPO website, [www-perscom.army.mil/perstempo](http://www-perscom.army.mil/perstempo). — *ARNEWS*



# Disaster Responses: America's Overnight Army

Story by MSG Bob Haskell



*When the need arises, members of National Guard units across the country are prepared to roll out with a few hours notice to deal with domestic emergencies.*



Florida Guard soldiers extinguish hot spots left from a recent wildfire.

SFC Jacob Pries, a combat engineer in the Iowa Army National Guard, was not surprised to hear SFC Tony Brown's voice on the telephone Wednesday night, April 18.

The Mississippi River was rising more than seven feet above its 15-foot flood stage. Gov. Tom Vilsack had called out the Guard to help civilian agencies deal with flooding that threatened Iowa's eastern communities. They needed 30 people by the next morning. Could Pries be at the state armory in Davenport by 6 a.m.?

Pries, who lives in nearby Bettendorf, reported for duty as dawn was breaking on April 19. He spent the next 36 hours filling sandbags and helping to build and reinforce levees that kept the "Father of Waters" from again becoming the mother of floods.

MSG Bob Haskell works for the National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office in Alexandria, Va.





A Florida Guard UH-60 helicopter is primed to launch and douse a wildfire in that state.



A California Guard Black Hawk drops a load of water on one of the many wildfires that plagued the state last year.

He was still on duty three weeks later.

In all, more than 1,200 Guard members from four upper Midwestern states pulled emergency relief duty during peak flood periods in April and May.

Their neighbors know them as ordinary citizens who live and work in cities, towns and farm communities throughout the region. But when the need arises, they're also members of National Guard units that are prepared to roll out with a few hours notice to deal with domestic emergencies.

It's called state active duty and can occur with unexpected suddenness, but disaster response also has its anticipated seasons — especially in the summer when wildfires threaten Florida, California and other kindling-dry states, and when hurricanes build off the coast of the Carolinas.

There is no off-season. Blizzards and ice storms may cripple northern



Florida Army National Guard soldiers comfort an anxious mother and her daughter after they were driven from their home by a recent wildfire.





California Guard SSG Wes Farnham escorts a family to safety after they were rescued from the ravages of El Nino in 1998.



states in winter; and floods from ice jams, melting snow and heavy spring rains may have governors calling for the Guard's help from late winter to well into May or June.

Those are the predictable emergencies.

Then there are the surprises:

- Earthquakes in the San Francisco Bay area in October 1989 and Northridge, Calif., in January 1994.
- The 1999 and 2000 riots and civil disturbances that erupted in Los Angeles, Seattle and Washington, D.C.
- The airliner that exploded and crashed into Long Island Sound in July 1996.

- The Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, followed by the tornado that struck the city in 1999.

But regardless of the crisis, the National Guard is set up to quickly respond. Experienced people know who to call and what equipment is required and ready for state duty.

"You've always got a group of soldiers who are willing and able to

come in on short notice," said Tony Brown, the 834th Engineer Company operations sergeant who called Pries on April 18 after being told he had 14 hours to get 30 troops ready for flood-relief duty.

"Once you get familiar with a unit, you know who you can call," he said.

Twenty-six people reported the following morning, and the required 30 were on duty by the end of that Thursday, Brown said. All told, nearly 70 of the company's 110 soldiers served for a few days or for the duration of the task force.

The nation's 464,000 Army and Air Guard members do a lot of that duty.

In 2000, for example, Army Guard members served 200,590 man-days and Air Guard members put in another 12,306 man-days during 288 missions classified as military support for civilian authorities.

The National Guard's yearly average has been 286,583 man-days for 290 missions over the past four years, according to a spokesman at the

*The National Guard's yearly average has been 286,583 man-days for 290 missions over the past four years.*

Army Guard's Readiness Center in Arlington, Va.

How does the Guard stay ready?

"We continually train in our command, control and communications procedures," said COL Myles Deering, the Oklahoma Army Guard's deputy chief of staff for operations. "Many of our military missions apply to what we do for domestic emergencies, especially for our military police, medical people and other combat-support units."

N.C. Guard SPC Kimberly Sutherland clears debris from a road in Raleigh after Hurricane Fran in 1996.



Maine Army National Guard soldiers hauled bottles of propane gas in tracked vehicles during the ice storm of 1998.



Soldiers





**National Guard soldiers lead horses out of flood waters near Tick Bite, N.C., after Hurricane Floyd.**



**Texas Guard CPL David E. Wilder leads SGT Kean Register (left) and LT Kenneth R. Walker through flooded Houston streets.**

And, Deering acknowledged, Oklahoma Guard people have discovered the hard way that practice does make perfect.

More than 740 members served during 37 days in Oklahoma City following the April 1995 blast that struck the Murrah Federal Building and killed 168 people.

And nearly 1,000 Guard members probed for bodies, labored at the city morgue and kept damaged homes secure from looters after the 300-mph winds of a half-mile wide tornado tore a 140-mile path through Oklahoma City's surrounding communities in May 1999.

Those events, Deering said, reinforced the importance of maintaining close ties with municipal leaders, state and county police forces, local Red Cross chapters and state emergency management officials.

This does not mean that the Guard can be all things to all people during a crisis. Army Guard LTC Robert Betz, who works full-time in Iowa's mili-

tary-support section at state headquarters near Des Moines, is a gatekeeper who makes sure the Guard's force is properly used without being abused.

"Are you sure you need us?" "Have you used all of your own manpower and resources?" "Have you brought in volunteers?" Those are questions Betz asks civilian emergency officials before Guard troops get dispatched.

"The National Guard is not a first responder," Betz said. "But the National Guard can respond. We can stay for a long time. We will do a good job. But we're not cheap."

It costs taxpayers an average of \$135 per day for every Guard member who is on state active duty in Iowa, said Betz. That requires careful management.

One anxious county sheriff, for example, asked that 75 Guard members be sent to work on a temporary levy for two days in April, Betz recalled. A National Guard engineer officer determined that only 30 Guard members were needed for the mission.

In fact, those 30 soldiers completed the mission in one day, then worked on another levy around Davenport's water-treatment plant the following day, Betz said.

There are two reasons why civilians insist "we need the Guard" when a crisis comes calling:

- Guard people know their home turf.

"We've been there so many times in the past," Betz explained. "We can count on having to send troops and equipment to Marquette and Camanche and Davenport when the Mississippi floods. Our people know where to go in Hamburg when the Missouri River floods."

- Guard people want to serve.

SFC Ron Wubben is a construction worker and Guard engineer who remained on state active duty in Davenport from April 19 until the troops pulled out after Mother's Day.

"It's our home, and it's part of our mission," he said. "We take it to heart." □

**In Oklahoma City in May 1999, Guard soldiers search for victims of an F-5 tornado.**



**Iowa Guard engineers check a temporary levy that kept the Mississippi River from flooding Davenport in April and May.**





# Bringing Health

Story and Photos by SSG Len Butler



**Texas Army National Guard Dr. (MAJ) Matthew Williams works on one of the thousands of patients who sought dental care during Operation Lone Star 2000.**

IT'S the end of summer, and Diana Zepeda sits outside John F. Kennedy Middle School in Hidalgo County, Texas, trying to keep watch over her daughters, Diana, 7, and Karrie, 5, as they play "tag" with other children.

It's 6:30 a.m.

As the sun peers over the horizon, it reveals an ever-growing line of people.

Another two hours go by before the school doors open. But instead of teachers and principals, men and women in BDUs spill out, ready to lend a helping hand.

Zepeda was just one of about 5,600 people who lined up as early as 3 a.m. nearly every day for two weeks last summer. They were seeking free health care from Operation Lone Star 2000, a Marine Forces Reserve-sponsored civil-military Innovative Readiness Training project. The exercise offered free medical and dental care to under-served people here at three area schools.

Healthcare providers from the Texas Army National Guard and Navy corpsmen from the Marine Forces Reserve 4th Fleet Services Support Group were the other military contributors to the mission. Members of the U.S. Public Health Service, the

Disaster Medical Assistance Team of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Texas Department of Health provided additional support.

"I work for an electronics company, and right now I don't have any insurance," Zepeda said, explaining why her family was in line that morning. "With the money I spend on rent and food, even a couple of dollars makes a difference."

Operation Lone Star 2000 was just one of the more than 210 IRT missions successfully completed last year, in nearly every state.

The care the medics and corpsmen provided during Lone Star 2000 was basic. Cmdr. Don A. Hatfield, a dentist with the 4th FSSG, said there are certain limitations on the type of care the patients receive, which stem from the soldiers' and the sailors' missions.

"We are set up as field medical and dental units," Hatfield said. "In my

SSG Len Butler is a member of the Texas National Guard Public Affairs Office.



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**Dr. (MAJ) Marco Coppola, a member of the Texas Guard's Detachment 5, State Area Command, examines Ruby Matamoros.**

# America



**Guard medic SPC Delma Lopez determines a patient's weight as part of Operation Lone Star 2000's initial-screening process.**



**Potential patients arrived before dawn each day to secure one of the 20 to 25 dental appointment slots.**

SFC Brenda Benner



**HM2 Randy Peters, a Navy corpsman from the Marine Reserve's 4th Fleet Services Support Group, gives one of 6,700 immunizations provided during Lone Star 2000.**



**SGT Jose Hernandez, a medic from the Texas Guard's 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry, takes a blood-pressure reading as part of the patient-screening process.**

case, when the marines deploy, we go with them and set up our operations in potentially austere locations. We cannot provide the type of care that requires the use of laboratories."

LTC Richard Sanchez, from the Texas Guard's Detachment 5, State

Area Command, said this doesn't mean the field medical units lack the expertise. On the contrary, he said, logistics create the limitations, not the people.

"As long as we have the equipment, our people are trained to do the job," Sanchez said. "Our people have the

training to do almost anything in the field as they would in a normal hospital setting."

That's just fine with Rosa Cantu. Her daughter, Anna, received her booster shots just in time to start kindergarten. Cantu said it's one less thing she has to worry about when Anna goes to class.

Services at medical IRT's typically include medical and dental care, a pharmacy for refilling or making prescriptions, stress and diabetes testing, and immunizations for anyone from infants to adults.

Since the 1980s the U.S. military — and the reserve component in particular — has been conducting humanitarian missions in Central and South America.

Now however, the active component has joined its Guard and Reserve counterparts. Together, they are offering their military skills to fellow



Americans here at home.

For Rio Grande Valley residents such as SPC Richard Silva and SGT Jose Hernandez, both medics from 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry, based in Weslaco, it means serving their neighbors and friends.

"I love my city and where I'm from," Silva said. "Heck, I took two weeks vacation just so I could be a part of this."

Hernandez agreed, saying Lone Star is a true example of neighbors serving neighbors.

"This is a great opportunity for the Texas National Guard, as well as the other organizations involved, to give something back to the people and the communities we serve," he said. "The treatment sites are set up extremely well, and we've had a really good turnout."

Turnout sometimes can be too good. Many would-be dental patients last summer had to be turned away because services could not meet the demand. With just a handful of dentists, more than 7,500 dental procedures were performed.

Dr. Brian Smith, the Texas Department of Health's South Texas regional director, said he is emphasizing the need for more dentists this year.

"Our objective is to treat everyone who walks through the door," he said.

The Lone Star program also has seen a substantial increase in the number of patients receiving immunizations. More than 6,700 patients were vaccinated last year, compared to 3,519 in 1999, the first year Lone Star teams visited this region of Texas.

SSG Judith A. Green of Detachment 5, State Area Command, said her experience in helping the less fortunate has been a rewarding one.

"This is a great opportunity for the people here to get the medical care that everyone should be entitled to, but that they normally couldn't afford," she said.

Hernandez, who left his Weslaco unit shortly after Lone Star 2000 ended, said it was important to him to finish his time there by helping his neighbors.

"I feel very proud to be a part of this," he said. "I'm making plans to go on active duty, and I already have my letter of release from my Guard unit. But I wanted to give back to the community I grew up in." □



## Innovative Readiness Training: Rebuilding America

**C**IVIL-Military Innovative Readiness Training programs, such as Operation Lone Star, serve a dual purpose. While military personnel are getting "real world" training that pertains to their military missions, they are also providing a valuable "leave behind" for the community, defense officials say.

All of the military services, including the Coast Guard, participate in civil-military IRT exercises.

The exercises — which are partnerships between the military and local civil authorities — most often include combat-support and combat-service-support units and focus on healthcare, transportation and engineering needs. While Guard and Reserve units have historically taken the lion's share of these missions, more active-component units are integrating IRT projects into their training plans.

In fiscal year 1999 more than 210 IRT projects were completed across the country. Projects included road and bridge building, air and land transport, children's at-risk programs and medical missions such as Lone Star.

Air Force Col. Diana Fleek of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs explained that the majority of IRT exercises are funded by the Department of Defense, but that the program is expanding as more units participate.

"We have 150 projects scheduled for 2001 that will receive some funding," Fleek said. "What that number doesn't include is the number of projects that are being funded by other means, such as a unit's annual-training budget."

Fleek said that communities slated for IRT projects commonly share the costs of the missions, whether through actual monetary funding or providing additional manpower or supplies.

During Operation Lone Star 2000, for example, the Texas Department of Health provided \$22,963 in vaccines, with an additional \$75,435 in vaccines coming from Hidalgo County.

Despite the often-significant benefit IRT projects provide communities, the purpose of the program is to provide realistic training for military units. Proposed projects come from local and state government agencies, community leaders and nongovernmental agencies.

Individuals or organizations requesting DOD assistance must certify that the services will not compete with local commercial enterprises, and unit commanders must certify that the proposed projects meet their units' training requirements.

"People see that this is hard-core, real-life training," Fleek said. "It is a side effect that offers an additional benefit to the communities."

For more on IRT requirements and the approval process, visit <http://raweb.osd.mil/initiatives/IRT.htm>. — SSG Len Butler



Among CEPOD's many projects in the Pacific is a telescope facility atop Maui's dormant Haleakala volcano.

# PACIFIC



## ENGINEERS

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer

**H**ONOLULU District engineer LTC Wally Walters had just returned from American Samoa, where one of his engineers was coordinating construction of small-boat harbors to facilitate transportation of life-sustaining goods to and from remote locations.

“People don’t realize the scope of our geographic location, the cultural differences we encounter and the diversity of our projects,” Walters said.

Headquartered at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, the Corps of Engineers’ Pacific Ocean Division — to which the Honolulu District belongs — is responsible for an area spanning more than a third of the earth’s surface, Walters said. That’s the largest geographic area of any of the Corps’ eight divisions and 40 districts and field operating agencies worldwide.

“All that the Corps does in terms of civil works and military design and construction is represented in our program in Hawaii,” he said. While most of it focuses on military construction, more than \$300 million of the district’s budget since 1902 has been spent on Pacific Island infrastructure.

CEPOD’s other district offices include those in Alaska, Korea and Japan. The former has participated in projects such as ecosystem protection following 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, and preservation of Alaska’s wetlands,

said CEPOD spokesman Larry Hawthorne.

CEPOD engineers also provide assistance following natural disasters. Cleanup efforts on the Hawaiian island of Kauai following Hurricane Iniki in 1992, for example, lasted a year and a half, Hawthorne said.

The Honolulu District, established in 1905, has made “phenomenal” contributions to the United States and its military forces, Hawthorne said.

Its role began in 1904 when LT John Slattery traveled from San Francisco, then the site of Pacific Division headquarters, to Oahu, to supervise the building of lighthouses and coastal artillery emplacements, and the expansion of Honolulu Harbor, Walters said.

When a permanent Honolulu District was established in 1905, Slattery acquired 74 acres of what was then a “mostly swampy and usually flooded area of duck ponds,” Hawthorne said. Today that land is among the world’s choicest real estate on Waikiki beach, site of the Armed Forces Recreation Center’s Hale Koa Hotel.

In the 1920s and ’30s the division’s engineers worked on beach-erosion projects and built military installations. In 1941 some 25,000 Corps employees completed a chain of nine island airfields along routes from California, through Hawaii, Australia and the Philippines in just 90 days, Hawthorne said. And

within three months after the Dec. 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Corps employees in Honolulu worked on 1,400 projects in Hawaii valued at \$84 million.

After the war the district built the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the “Punchbowl,” and the largest military hospital in the Pacific, Tripler Army Medical Center.



CEPOD contractors use metal detectors to locate unexploded ordnance at Bellows Air Force Station on Oahu. The ordnance is then rendered safe and removed.

*Headquartered at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, the Corps of Engineers’ Pacific Ocean Division — to which the Honolulu District belongs — is responsible for an area spanning more than a third of the earth’s surface.*



The district was also responsible for military construction in support of the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, Hawthorne said.

Later, the Honolulu District completed construction of a chemical weapons disposal plant on remote Johnston Atoll and a \$20 million telescope facility for the Air Force atop Haleakala, Maui's 10,000-foot dormant volcano.

Today, the massive telescope is the Air Force's premier optical surveillance system, allowing the service to track and map all of the roughly 8,000 man-made objects hurled into earth orbit over the last 45 years, Hawthorne said.

Among other Corps projects is flood control, as on the island of



**The Whole Barracks Renewal Project — a \$1 billion effort over 10 years — is providing new barracks and other facilities for the Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division.**

Hawaii, where nearly a dozen major floods have struck the business district of Hilo, its largest city, since 1920, Hawthorne said.

On Oahu, home of the 25th Infantry Division, the district is focused on the 13-year, \$1 billion Whole Barracks Renewal Program. Begun in 1995 to bring barracks up to the Army's one-plus-one standard, the project is due to be completed in 2008,

said program manager Ray Kishaba.

Three barracks buildings that collectively house 500 soldiers were completed in 1998. In April 2000, the doors

opened to a new dining facility for the 25th Inf. Div.'s 2nd Brigade.

Another barracks is to be completed by December, and beginning in 2003 the Corps will renovate 16 barracks for the 25th ID's Division Support Command and 125th Military Intelligence Brigade, Hawthorne said.

It's no mean feat, considering that engineers must protect not only the building facades of those listed as



**CEPOD played an important role in the planning and construction of the renowned Hale Koa Hotel on Waikiki — a Hawaiian haven for service members, their families, retirees and eligible federal employees.**



historic sites, but the environment as well. The Honolulu District is responsible for protecting 25 percent of America's endangered plants and wildlife, Hawthorne said.

Environmental work includes the cleanup of former defense sites, such as the ocean-front property recently restored at Bellows Air Force Station on Oahu, and other sites on the islands of Hawaii, Molokai and Guam, Walters said.

The station, an important Nike-Hercules anti-aircraft missile site until 1971, was littered with unexploded ordnance, he said. Some of it was the result of recent training, Hawthorne said, but other litter included ordnance and training devices dating back to World War II. Weeks after the project began, a team of 35 people uncovered about 6,000 pounds of live ammunition.

When the Nike site was closed in 1971, the land was used for various purposes, among them an urban assault training area and track for jeep rallies and motorcycle races, said Corps project manager Jerry Cornell.

"We removed some 22 tons of junk — 106 pickup-truck loads — from the area," he said. Workers completed the \$2.3 million cleanup project in June, and the land has been returned to the state of Hawaii, which will establish a national park and recreation area there, Hawthorne said.

At the same time the Corps provides land for recreation, it secures and protects the Army's valuable training land. Recently, CEPOD bought the Kahuku Training Area used by soldiers of the 25th Inf. Div.

Creating change that will help communities thrive and prosper at the same time they're being protected — and improving the Defense Department's view of the universe, too — are among CEPOD's broad range of missions in the unique environments of the Pacific Islands. □



**Three barracks buildings that collectively house 500 25th Infantry Division soldiers were completed in 1998 as part of the Whole Barracks Renewal Program.**



**A comprehensive CEPOD flood-control program in Hilo, Hawaii, has saved homes and businesses from repeated floodings.**

# E-mail Etiquette



Story by SFC Lisa Beth Snyder

**W**HILE e-mail has become a standard way of doing business in the Army, the regulations and customs for using this form of communication are still evolving.

Department of Defense Directive 5500.7-R, "Joint Ethics Regulation," Section 2-301, is the basis for Army policy on the use of government telecommunications and computing systems that are found in Army Regulation 25-1, "Army Information Management."

The directive states that Army employees are authorized to contact family about changes in travel plans while traveling on government business. They may also conduct personal communications from the work place that are most reasonably made while there. Examples are checking in with family, scheduling doctor and auto or home repair appointments, brief Internet searches or e-mailing directions to visiting relatives, as long as the communications are short and do not interfere with the job.

Employees may be disciplined if they use government computers to access or spread pornography, anti-government information or gambling

schemes; send chain e-mail messages; conduct unofficial commercial or political activities; or engage in any activity that is illegal or discredits the government.

The government may monitor all information, including personal information placed on or sent over DOD computer systems, personal user files and directories, and any use of the Internet or records created by the Internet. Logging onto a government system implies consent to this policy. Unauthorized use of DOD computer systems may subject users to administrative, criminal or other adverse action.

When logging onto an Army computer, you are agreeing not to interfere with communication systems. This means you must refrain from:

- ❶ Creating, downloading, storing, copying, transmitting, or broadcasting chain letters.
- ❷ "Spamming," that is, widely distributing unsolicited e-mail.
- ❸ Sending a "letter-bomb," that is, resending the same e-mail message repeatedly to one or more recipients, interfering with the recipient's use of e-mail.
- ❹ Broadcasting unsubstantiated

virus warnings from sources other than systems administrators.

- ❺ Broadcasting e-mail messages to large groups of e-mail users (entire organizations) instead of targeting smaller populations.

U.S. Army Forces Command has published guidelines that help e-mail users apply Army regulations to their electronic communications. [*See accompanying box.*]

Technology writers also add a few additional rules to the FORSCOM list.

Seattle Times columnist Charles Bermant warns his readers not to send jokes or unsolicited attachments and to simplify their auto-signature block to avoid clogging people's e-mail boxes.

James Martin of PCWorld.com adds another caution about using e-mail to send sensitive messages. These, he wrote recently, are best delivered in person or by telephone if face-to-face communication is not possible.

Most systems managers and computer specialists agree that knowing and following the rules will help to reduce the time wasted on unnecessary e-mail traffic and help ensure that e-mail users don't commit unintended criminal or unethical activities. □



# Guidelines for E-mail Using

U.S. Army Forces Command has posted the following e-mail guidelines on its website, <http://freddie.forscom.army.mil/dcsc4/etiq.pdf>.

- ❖ Observe the Golden Rule - be courteous and conscientious.
- ❖ Be professional and careful regarding what you say about others. Remember, it is very easy to forward messages, and what you say may be forwarded to an unintended audience.
- ❖ Write complete sentences but be concise. Do not use all CAPS when writing — that is normally construed to be shouting at the recipient. Conversely, do not write in all lower case, as this shows poor writing style.
- ❖ Use a spell checker.
- ❖ Use discretion in forwarding e-mail, especially from general officers or senior executive service members.
- ❖ Address your e-mail only to those who need to respond to the message. Courtesy copy (cc) anyone who needs to be kept informed but does not need to respond.
- ❖ Do not use the "Reply All" button when answering a message sent to a large group. Usually the rest are not concerned with your response, and it often triggers numerous other messages as addressees banter over the use of "Reply All."
- ❖ Use a descriptive subject line. If you reply to a message but talk about a different subject, change the subject line to reflect the new subject matter.
- ❖ Follow the chain of command unless specifically asked for a direct reply.
- ❖ Answer messages within a reasonable time. If you will be out of the office for more than a day or so, use the "Out of Office Assistant" feature. Also, remember the "Rules Wizard" feature is available to forward your e-mail to the person filling in for you.
- ❖ Do not send chain letters or forward virus warnings. It is the responsibility of the mail administrator to forward e-mail concerning viruses. — *FORSCOM Public Affairs Office*





The Berlin Wall — actually a series of walls, fences and obstacles — turned West Berlin into an “island” within East Germany.

# WHEN GERMANY WAS DIVIDED

Story by Renita Foster

*Bob Hopkins was a boy living in West Germany when construction of the Berlin Wall began Aug. 13, 1961, and served in Germany as an Army intelligence officer during much of the Cold War. Today the retired warrant officer remembers . . .*



Now just a preserved reminder of times past, the tower at Operations Point Alpha once overlooked a key section of the former East-West German border.

**O**VERGROWN hedges and remnant strips of wasteland are about the only reminders left of the “Iron Curtain” that divided Germany for almost half a century. But when retired warrant officer Bob Hopkins returned to Germany and gazed across the former East-West German border, he saw something else, something he’s never forgotten. “The metal lattice fences, dogs on leashes, searchlights, even those East German guards and me in the towers scrutinizing each other through field glasses. They are as real now as they were then,” said Hopkins who spent the major-

Renita Foster is a feature writer for the Fort Monmouth, N.J., Message.





Members of the Soviet 6th Independent Motorized Rifle Brigade stand at attention during the last guard change at Spandau Prison.

It was just unbelievable something like this existed.

-ity of his Army career as an intelligence officer in areas like Coburg, Bad Neustadt, Berlin, and Bad Hersfeld.

Serving as a member of a Border Residence Office required Hopkins to interview people who had escaped from East Germany and to constantly watch for changes on and beyond the border. He also acted as a liaison between American Forces and the West German Army, German Customs and German Border Police, assisting them in their operations.

As the son of an American soldier and German mother, Hopkins spoke fluent German, making him a natural for such assignments. Ironically, his father was stationed in Germany on Aug. 13, 1961, when the Wall and frontier barricades were started. Hopkins remembers his dad, while stationed with the Constabulary Forces in the early '50s in Bamberg, sharing stories about American and Russian soldiers swapping cigarettes and vodka.

"They actually socialized with each

other," Hopkins said. "Yet, by the time I came on active duty, contact was absolutely forbidden and Soviet soldiers had been replaced by East German Border Guards.

Despite growing up and serving nearly a decade in Germany, it wasn't until his 1985 assignment with the 108th Military Intelligence Battalion,

*Hopkins described many of the East Germans as being ecstatic that they had escaped. Afterward, however, came guilt about families remaining in the East who would be subject to retaliation.*

in Wildflecken, that he actually saw the Berlin Wall.

"I was a sergeant first class debriefing refugees from Eastern Block countries when I was finally confronted by the Berlin Wall. As I stood there in front of it, I realized this really was the end of the free world. It was just unbelievable something like this existed."

Hopkins stresses that what most people think of as "the Wall" only existed in Berlin, while the rest of East and West Germany was divided by more than 800 miles of fence.

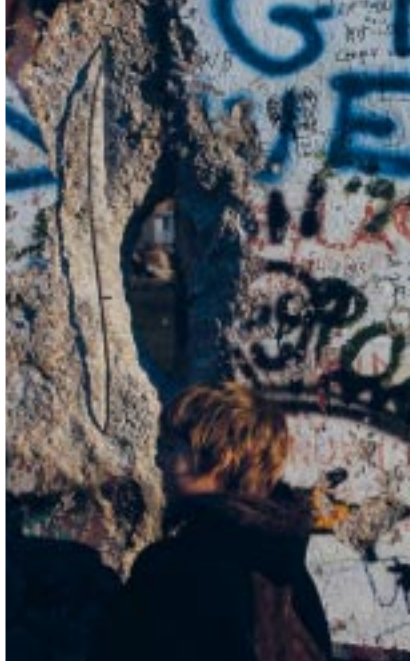
The barrier between the two countries was multi-layered, complete with barbed wire, heavily-armed fortifications and mine fields. A signal security fence located farther back into East Germany tipped guards of escape attempts.

Hopkins remembers that during his tour at the BRO in Coburg, in 1976, one East German managed to escape despite badly injuring an arm on the razor-sharp fence top. Another escapee

lost all sense of direction because the frontier barrier was constructed in a zigzag manner, keeping the defector totally confused as to where he actually was. Fortunately, he was able to hide until learning he'd made it to the West.

"Unless you were a border guard and knew the area well, you didn't know the series of signal security towers and actual border fences and possible mine fields or traps," Hopkins said, describing the maze that faced the potential escapee.

And then there was the "death strip." A work force was occasionally escorted to the west side of the fence, with two guards accompanying each laborer. A red tape was strung around their work area with the stern warning that anyone crossing it would be shot, and a



MSG Gil High

**After the Wall was breached, those sections still standing became targets for souvenir hunters wanting a piece of history.**

stopped. Not even when his former partner on the tower began shouting and aimed his rifle. The East German reported that the last sound he heard before reaching the freedom of the West was a metallic click instead of the sharp crack of a discharged weapon.

And what about the price of freedom so highly coveted by the East Germans? Hopkins described many of the East Germans as being ecstatic that they had escaped. Afterward, however, came guilt about families remaining in the East who would be subject to retaliation.

A series of small white crosses commemorating East Germans who gambled for freedom and lost is one anguishing legacy left by the perilous barricades.

Hopkins recalled one of his most devastating experiences was in 1978 in the Coburg sector, when a young man had made it across all border fortifications but was badly wounded.

"He was only about 10 feet from the border and his freedom. All we could do was stand there and watch him die with an ambulance and doctors anxiously waiting and hoping he'd make it. Had anyone tried to reach him, they'd have endangered their own lives and caused an international incident. We all knew East German Border Guards were ordered to shoot to kill."

Hopkins again observed the barrier's senseless horror when an East German guard's leg was blown off while clearing mines. "Even when your worst enemy is hurt, you hurt," he said.



**Checkpoint Charlie was for decades one of the main — and certainly the most famous — of the crossing points between communist East Berlin and free West Berlin.**

slight movement in that direction was viewed as an escape attempt.

Hopkins' last illegal border crosser came in 1989 during his assignment as officer in charge of the BRO in Bad Hersfeld.

Assigned as a border guard at the Untersuhl crossing point in East Germany, the East German shrewdly disabled his partner's weapon. Then under the pretense of using the bathroom and checking train tracks, the guard descended from the tower and entered the alley where the daily passenger train traveled to and from East Germany.

The moment he entered the train corridor, he started running and never



**The otherwise unremarkable Glienicck Bridge gained fame during the Cold War as the East-West crossing point where spies were exchanged.**

*A series of small white crosses commemorate East Germans who gambled for freedom and lost...*





**East and West Germans joyously mobbed the 28-year-old Berlin Wall on Nov. 9, 1989, and soon afterwards the Wall came down and the city was whole again.**

During his assignments along the frontier, Hopkins came to realize the Berlin Wall and frontier barricades not only divided a country, but families living within yards of each other.

"There was a designated place on the border in the Coburg sector, where a cross was mounted, and you could look across and see the cemetery in East Germany. Occasionally, family members living in West Germany would congregate there and participate in a funeral service actually being held in the East. Sometimes they'd hold up children and wave to one another. These people were desperately trying to hold on to family unity as best as they could. If the East German border guards saw East German families responding in any way, the families were immediately reprimanded and faced severe penalties. The guards simply didn't tolerate contact of any kind."

Hopkins's last assignment on the border was with the 165th MI Bn. in Darmstadt in 1989, with duty at the BRO in Bad Hersfeld. He was now a warrant officer and fully expected to manage the BRO for another three-year tour.

But on the evening of Nov. 9th, history abruptly changed. At midnight, East and West Germans joyously mobbed the 28-year-old Berlin Wall. The frenzied celebration intensified as East Berliners burst through the few



Heike Hasenauer

**A memorial to those who died trying to escape East Germany once adorned the west side of the Berlin Wall, not far from the infamous "death strip."**

openings and clambered to the top of the wall, joined by thousands from the West.

At Hopkins' station along the Intra-German Border, however, U.S. Forces went on full alert.

"We really had no clue what to expect," he said. "As a soldier I couldn't let my guard down, because it was quite possible Russian tanks would follow those crowds rambling over the official crossing points. Instead, we were overwhelmed by East Germans getting off their late shift at factories in East Germany. They wanted to see if it was true they were free to go without permission. Then all they wanted to do was just talk to westerners and drink a Coke!"

Back in Berlin, "chiseling mania" quickly followed as Berliners and visitors to the city acquired souvenirs

*On the evening of Nov. 9th, history abruptly changed. At midnight, East and West Germans joyously mobbed the 28-year-old Berlin Wall.*

from one of the most infamous barriers ever known. It's a phenomenon Hopkins easily understood, especially since he was one of the millions who did it.

"The Cold War had been going on all these years, and then it was suddenly over. People couldn't help but get excited," he said. "My biggest thrill was getting a piece of the Wall near Checkpoint Charlie, the American entrance to East Berlin."

Hopkins moved to Tampa, Fla., after retiring in 1993, and two years later began working at the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office as a criminal intelligence analyst in the organized crime bureau.

But the gripping adventures of the German border and the unforgettable memory of the collapse of the "Iron Curtain" never left him. So when the 11th Armored Cavalry held a reunion in May 2000 for all soldiers who served along the border, he returned to Germany.

"I think it was intrigue more than anything else. To see a country that I considered my home, along with America, go from one extreme to the other; it just wasn't your regular life's adventure," Hopkins said.

"I felt an intense desire to see how Germany had come together, economically and socially. For those of us who served there when the country was divided, that moment of world history meant a great deal.

"The fact is you can put up a front all you want, you can keep people in the dark for 45 years, but sooner or later they find out the truth. East Germany destroyed itself. And I believe it's highly significant the world was able to overcome the Cold War peacefully, since more people were killed during its existence than when it ended." □



# BE A PART OF YOUR MAGAZINE

## SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO SOLDIERS

**S**oldiers wants you, your family and friends to be part of our hottest issue of the year. We're already planning our 2002 almanac and once again need your help.

A large part of each almanac is "This Is Our Army," a photo feature that tells the Army story at the local level.

If you have candid photos of the Army family at work or play, send them in. **Mail your best photos to us by Sept. 1. There's only one rule — all photos must be taken between Aug. 16, 2000, and Aug. 15, 2001.**

**Soldiers** requires color prints or slides. We don't need fancy 8x10 prints — regular 4x6 prints will do. We can accept digital images, but they must be very high resolution (minimum is 5x7 at 300 dpi), the kind taken with a professional digital camera. If your images can fit onto a floppy disk, they are too small. Please do not send prints made from digital images. Also, please **DO NOT** e-mail photo submissions.

To enter, complete a copy of the form below and attach it to each photo you send. Photos without complete caption information will not be considered. Photos and accompanying information cannot be returned.

If you have questions, contact our photo editor by phone at (703) 806-4504 or (DSN) 656-4504, or via e-mail to [soldiers@belvoir.army.mil](mailto:soldiers@belvoir.army.mil).

Mail your entries with prints or slides to:  
**Soldiers; ATTN: Photo Editor; 9325 Gunston Rd., Suite S-108; Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.**

**Want more tips on shooting photos?**  
See page 29 of the May issue.

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### TIPS FOR PHOTO SUCCESS

**M**ORE than half the photos we receive each year never make it to the final selection process, mostly for avoidable reasons. Follow these simple tips to be sure your photos have the best chance of being selected.

**1.** Complete the accompanying entry form and carefully attach it to the back of each photo you send, or provide a way of linking it to each image.

**2.** Make sure your package is postmarked by the Sept. 1 deadline.

**3.** Send only photos taken between Aug. 16, 2000, and Aug. 15, 2001.

**4.** Check closely to be sure your photos don't show obvious uniform or safety violations.

**5.** Identify people in each photo by full name, rank and correct unit designation; and provide a means of contacting you if we have any questions about the information you've sent.

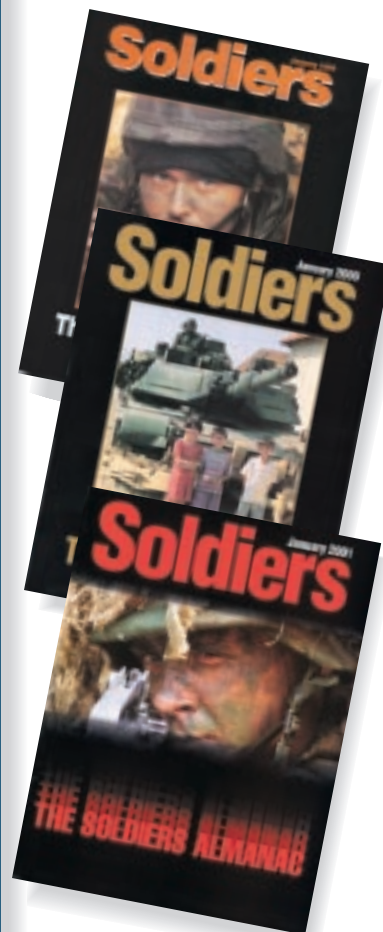
**6.** Don't send snapshots of people staring into the camera. Candid photos are usually better.

**7.** Send only quality images: No Polaroids; no out-of-focus, discolored or torn images; and no prints from digital images.

**8.** Don't write on the back of your prints, because this may damage the images. Also, avoid using staples and paper clips on photos.

**9.** Protect your images. Use cardboard to reinforce your package before you mail.

**10.** If you plan to send digital images, follow the guidelines in our Style Guide, posted on **Soldiers Online** at [www.dtic.mil/soldiers](http://www.dtic.mil/soldiers).



## Soldiers

"This Is Our Army" Entry Form

Photographer's full name (and rank if military)

e-mail address

Phone

Street address

City (APO)

State

Zip

Photocopy this entry form and attach a copy to each photo you submit.

Where and when was the photo taken? (Use approximate date if necessary.)

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Describe the action in the photo. (Include full name, rank and unit of those pictured.)

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Mail to: **Soldiers, ATTN: Photo Editor, 9325 Gunston Rd., Suite S-108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.** Photos must have been taken between Aug. 16, 2000, and Aug. 15, 2001. Color prints and slides are acceptable. Photos that are obviously posed or that show obvious uniform or safety violations will be disqualified. Entries cannot be returned and must be postmarked by Sept. 1, 2001. For more information see **Soldiers Online** at [www.dtic.mil/soldiers](http://www.dtic.mil/soldiers).

Bill Gossweiler



## Environmental Sharp Shooters Contest

**SOLDIERS** magazine reminds its readers who witness action on the Environmental Front to submit their best environmental photographs for a special "Environmental Sharp Shooters" feature in the April 2002 issue. Deadline for submission is Dec. 31. Entry categories include Readiness, Stewardship, Well-being and Community Outreach.

For more information, or to receive an Environmental Sharp Shooters application form and a complete set of rules, visit the U.S. Army Environmental Center website at <http://aec.army.mil>, or contact Cynthia Houston at [Environmental.Front@aec.apgea.army.mil](mailto:Environmental.Front@aec.apgea.army.mil), or call (410) 436-1270 (DSN 584-). — U.S. Army Environmental Center Public Affairs Office

## Volunteers Revitalize Army Lands

LAST year, 14 Army installations in 12 states celebrated National Public Lands Day by taking on environmental projects to improve woodland trails, foster native plant growth, promote bird habitat and increase forestation.

With the help of local volunteers, environmental groups and government organizations, the Army plans to expand that record during this year's event, to be held Sept. 29.

Sponsored by the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to scientifically sound environmental education, National Public Lands Day provides the opportunity for public-land managers to apply for improvement grants of up to \$6,000.

Qualifying Army applicants must demonstrate that they have a public-land project on their installations that includes community outreach and will be undertaken on or around the last Saturday in September.

More than 70 volunteers planted a model native-species garden on Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., to celebrate the seventh annual National Public Lands Day last September.

Sponsored by the U.S. Army Environmental Center and the proving ground, the event resulted in the first phase of a planned demonstration "BayScape" next to USAEC's headquarters in the Edgewood area of the installation.

BayScapes are environmentally sound landscapes that benefit people, wildlife and the

Chesapeake Bay, where the proving ground is located. Plants used in the BayScape are native to the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

"We are gathered here to show that the Army is a good steward of the lands that have been entrusted to us by the American people," COL Stanley Lillie, USAEC commander, said at the event. "By partnering with our neighbors on a project like BayScapes, we also grow as a community. Together, we learn how important it is to take care of the land."

Boy Scout Matthew Thies of Troop 777 in Bel Air, Md., helped plan the National Public Lands Day project to fulfill the requirements for the Scouts' Hornaday conservation award. The BayScape project "sets the example to the community that native plants need less care and that they aren't just shrub bushes that don't look appealing. They have beauty in themselves," Thies said.

Though events took place across the country, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland's largest federal land holding, was a fitting place to celebrate the occasion, said Sen. Paul Sarbanes (D-Md.).

"Its open spaces, forests and wetlands provide crucial natural habitat for many species of birds and mammals that represent an important part of the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem," he said. "The Army obviously has an important responsibility to be a good steward of the land for which it is responsible."

Mario Briscoe, a 6th grader from Edgewood Middle School, was one of the many young people who helped plant the BayScape.

"I'm glad I came. It's fun, and I like helping," he said. By planting, "we are adding more to the environment and helping to re-





store trees and plants.”

His mother, LTC Crystal Briscoe of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute, also brought husband Lee, and daughter Jada, 2.

“I feel we should all be aware that if we continue to take from the environment and not give back, pretty soon there will be nothing left,” Briscoe said. “And I want my children to realize that at an early age.”

National Public Lands Day has grown from 200 volunteers in three states in 1993 to nearly 45,000 volunteers in 2000 who helped to improve public lands on 277 sites in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Officials estimate that diligent efforts combined with community contributions of food, tools and equipment resulted in more than \$6.5 million of improvements to public lands as a result of the 2000 program.

For more information on applying for a National Public Lands Day grant, contact Patti Pride at (202) 833-2933, Ext. 474, or e-mail her at [pride@neetf.org](mailto:pride@neetf.org).

For more information on BayScapes or on a National Public Lands Day event going on at an Army post near you, contact Janmichael Graine at (410) 436-7113 or e-mail [Janmichael.Graine@aec.apgea.army.mil](mailto:Janmichael.Graine@aec.apgea.army.mil). — U.S. Army Environmental Center PAO

## HAZMAT Teams Share Critical Training

FORT McCoy, Wis., firefighters who would deal with hazardous-material-response scenarios recently shared required training with their counterparts from the Trane Company in nearby La Crosse.

The HAZMAT training helped renew the two organizations’ partnership, which began several years ago, said 1LT Gordon Billings, Fort McCoy Fire Department HAZMAT officer and course instructor.

Billings said the Environmental Protection Agency requires those involved in hazardous-material cleanup to take an eight-hour refresher course each year to retain certification. This is the second year Fort McCoy has hosted the course.

Fort McCoy and Trane, a supplier of climate-control systems, both have hazardous-materials response teams and personnel from each organization would aid the other organization if called upon.

“It has worked very well,” Billings said. “We have the classroom space and can offer them hands-on training. And the attendees can share infor-

mation among themselves.”

Larry Marshall, a member of the Trane spill-response team, said Trane employees enjoy coming to Fort McCoy for the training because of the classroom space, the good facilities and the professionalism of fire department personnel.

The Fort McCoy Fire Department team has a Level A HAZMAT rating and the Trane team has a Level B rating, which means Fort McCoy can handle more-complicated scenarios because it has more-advanced equipment, Billings said.

But Marshall said many of the Trane team members also have Level A certifications, so it’s a good opportunity for them to practice using the advanced equipment and performing tasks and refining communica-

tion techniques in protective clothing. The protective clothing can be a special challenge because it is bulky and the personnel have to use oxygen tanks and protective masks that make moving, talking and hearing more difficult, Marshall said.

Mike Bilse, a Trane safety engineer, said the dialogue between the personnel on HAZMAT teams is a benefit.

“We do the same types of things, so it gives us a chance to get insight about potential problems and solutions from other HAZMAT personnel,” Bilse said. “It’s good to establish a working relationship. The time might come when one team might need personnel or equipment support from the other.”

Pat Smith, a Trane safety technician, said it’s absolutely necessary to get the training and maintain their skills in HAZMAT procedures.

“If you don’t keep it up, and you make one mistake as a result, someone might pay for it,” Smith said. “You need to know and practice the skills.” — *Fort McCoy Triad newspaper*



**1LT Gordon Billings (left) explains a HAZMAT scenario to students during the training at Fort McCoy.**



## Kuslat, Bosnia-Herzegovina

### U.S., Serb Soldiers Repair Bridge

U.S. engineers and Bosnian-Serb soldiers joined forces in May to rebuild two bridges over the Drina River, near the city of Kuslat. Participating soldiers were drawn from the Georgia Army National Guard's 648th Engineer Battalion and the Bosnian Serb forces' 55th Reconnaissance Detachment, a special-forces unit.

"This mission was significant because for the first time we were working side by side with Bosnian-Serb soldiers," said 2LT David Henderson, leader of 1st Platoon, Company C, the unit charged with making the repairs.

Despite the differences in language and background, the U.S. and Serb units came together as a team, although the

soldiers often communicated using hand signals and gestures when interpreters were busy, Henderson said.

The repairs were necessary because "there were some big holes in surfaces, and civilians took chances every time they drove across the bridges," Henderson said. "You could easily get stuck or damage a vehicle trying it."

The soldiers stripped wooden planking from the bridges' steel frames, then "redecked" the structures with new wooden planks and treadways that run the length of each bridge to reduce wear and tear on the surface, Henderson said.

The new bridges are now stable and meet their maximum capacity requirements of 30 tons, said SGT John D. Barnard Jr., a heavy-equipment operator.

"A lot of people are trying to

move back into this area; these bridges give the civilians their freedom of movement and should aid citizens coming back to their homes," Henderson said.

"You have a lot of people who would like to return," he said. "Having the Stabilization Force come out here to build bridges shows the citizens we are here to support them." — *SPC Anthony Jarmusz, Michigan Army National Guard*

## Honduras

### Bringing Help to Honduras

THERE was no pushing or shoving in the village of Guanajulque as the people lined up to receive medical attention. Many wearing their best clothes, they waited patiently in the hot sun.

As Maria Mendez and her

three children stepped up to the triage station, SSG Kirk Vanian asked what was wrong and SSG Norm Medina translated his question.

"My head hurts, and I have pain in my back," she answered.

Pain is often a part of life for the residents of these poor mountain villages, but the soldiers from the Colorado Army National Guard's Company C, 109th Area Support Medical Battalion, were in Honduras to try to change that. They were participating in a medical readiness exercise, or MEDRETE, in support of Joint Task Force-Bravo.

"The mission for this annual training is to provide basic medical care and preventive-medicine classes," said MAJ Dana Capozzella, commander of the team in Guanajulque.

The preventative-medicine classes, taught by members of the Honduran Health Department, addressed such fundamentals as proper toothbrushing and the importance of hand washing.

The National Guard's contribution was a portable facility and medical personnel to run a triage station, wound-care area,



Engineers of the Georgia Army National Guard's 648th Engineer Battalion work with Bosnian-Serb troops to redeck a bridge over the Drina River near Kuslat.



**MAJ Dana Capozzella of the 109th ASMB briefs Colorado Army National Guard commander BG Ron Crowder during his visit to the medical readiness exercise in Honduras.**

treatment room and pharmacy. In the triage area, medics examined the villagers to determine their ailments, and either treated them immediately or sent patients to a doctor or dentist.

"One of the common illnesses we see are upper-respiratory problems, which can usually be treated by the medics during triage," said Dr. (COL) Tony Korvas.

"But in addition to providing basic medical care for infections and providing prenatal services, we're trying to identify problems that, if left untreated, would become life-threatening," he explained. "These patients are referred to the Honduran doctors for further treatment."

Soldiers had many different reactions to their Honduran experience.

"I'm excited about being here," said PVT Shannon Towner. "This is my first time outside the United States; I've

been in the Guard for less than a year, and it's the first chance I've had to use the medical skills I learned in AIT," she said.

But others were sorry they could not do more.

"Once the bag of pills is gone, they have no other help," said SGT Ashli Jones.

The unit treated more than 4,200 patients and performed more than 8,000 procedures during the two-week AT. But as the soldiers returned to Colorado, they were already looking forward to their next MEDRETE, a spring 2002 deployment to Nicaragua. — *SSG Steve Segin, Colorado Army National Guard*

#### **Camp Doha, Kuwait**

### **Medevac Saves Lives in the Desert**

WHEN a call is received, each soldier's knowledge and preparedness are key in accomplishing the 571st Medical Company's medical-evacuation mission. The unit, from Fort Carson, Colo., has a handful of soldiers deployed here through the end of the summer.

"We have 10 people, and they are all mission-essential," said CPT Edward F. Mandril, a pilot and the company's commander. "They have a heavy load on them."

The soldiers form two teams; each consists of a flight-operations specialist and a crew that includes two pilots, a flight medic and crew chief.

The "heavy load" is their medevac mission — to provide stabilization and expeditious transport of soldiers in immediate need of medical at-

tention. The 571st serves personnel from all military branches in Kuwait, including foreign military service members.

Each crew is on alert for 48 hours at a time, ready to respond to medical emergencies and transport patients to treatment facilities. From the time a flight operations specialist receives a call, the crew must be in the air within 10 minutes.

Pilots have the easiest job, said CW3 Dennis Fletcher. "All we have to do is fly fast. The real mission comes down to the crew chief and the medic," he said.

Ensuring that helicopters are always ready to go, despite the harsh conditions, is a challenge for the crew chiefs, Mandril said.

"We're in a really sandy environment," he said. "This is an area where maintenance is a big issue."

On board each UH-60 Black Hawk, which can be configured to evacuate up to six casualties, is all the equipment

the flight medic needs to stabilize patients — from simple splints and bandages to medications and such high-tech equipment as defibrillators and oxygen ventilators.

"We're pretty much prepared to handle anything short of surgery," said flight medic SGT Phillip Smith.

When not flying missions, the company conducts training or prepares for the next emergency.

Training outside the unit includes working with field medics, who must learn how to work safely in and around helicopters, and supporting ground units training in the region, which makes those soldiers more aware of the medevac teams' presence.

"Unless they see us in action, a lot of people don't know we have all that medical equipment on board," said Mandril. "It gives units the confidence that if somebody gets hurt, we'll be there." — *SPC Carrie Fotovich*



**SGT Ronald Belcher (far right) of Fort Carson's 571st Med. Co. looks on as medics unload a "patient" during medevac training at Camp Doha.**

SSG Michael Rautio





Tavary: With "Mission of Mercy."

*While Tavary was thrilled about being offered the job, she was also afraid she wouldn't be able to pull it off.*

**I**N 1997, COL James F. Reynolds, then commander of the 4225th U.S. Army Hospital at the Charles L. Sheridan U.S. Army Reserve Center in Helena, Mont., commissioned one of his soldiers to paint a mural at the hospital.

The job went to **SSG Annie Tavary**, based on the artistic ability she had displayed earlier with her entry in a unit T-shirt contest.

While Tavary was thrilled about being offered the job, she was also afraid she wouldn't be able to pull it off, she said. She'd had no formal art training, nor had ever drawn seriously. And she'd never worked with paint. Most of what she had done was colored-pencil drawings.

Planning for the project took considerable time, said Tavary, who came up with her own rendition of the statue of a combat medic and injured soldier at the Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Army Medical Department Museum.

Reynolds provided the supplies, Chris Bellville, an art teacher at area high schools, painted the background, and others, including Tavary's father, a supply sergeant at Fort Cheyenne, Wyo., during World War II, offered instructions on how to paint boots, for example.

When it was finished, Tavary entitled the mural, drawn on the wall of the hospital's drill-hall stairwell, "Mission of Mercy." She worked about 80 hours on the project, over a year's time, during drill weekends, she said.

"It was a unique opportunity to be more in touch with unit members," said Tavary. As she painted, unit members often stopped to talk about their own personal stories. It was an insight you don't glean during once-a-month drill weekends, she said.

Today, COL Dennis C. Drake, commander of the unit's higher headquarters, the 652nd Area Support Group, is planning to move the "Mission of Mercy" mural when the hospital relocates to a new building at Fort

Harrison, also in Helena.

Tavary — a full-time director of youth ministry at the First Presbyterian Church in Helena and co-director of "Lessons and Loaves," an after-school program that offers hot meals and mentoring to 9- to 12-year-olds — is a behavioral science specialist in the Reserve.

At the time of this writing, she planned to transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve. — 4225th U.S. Army Hospital release

**L****TC Greg Hampton** first visited the hallowed ground at Gettysburg National Military Park, Pa., about a decade ago and remembers thinking, somewhat facetiously, "Oh, yes, this is moving."

He returned a few years later, during a Command and General Staff College staff ride and left with pretty much the same attitude of general interest in the military tactics that were employed at Gettysburg, but without much emotional involvement.

On yet another trip, something almost spiritual took place.

"I came to the Pennsylvania monument, and it was like someone had brushed by my shoulder," Hampton said. "It's really hard to describe what happened, but something just told me to turn around."

When he did, he came face to face with a monument inscribed "Hampton's Battery." The artillery battery commanded by CPT Robert Brown Hampton —

**A**T 82, and with 59 years of continuous government service behind him, retired **MSG Ted Liska** has no intention of leaving his position as mail clerk at the American Embassy in Paris.

That's because during his 31-year Army career he learned a letter from home is one of the most important things a soldier can receive, he said.

Liska entered the Army on Nov. 6, 1941, saw combat in Europe during World War II and fought in Korea and Vietnam. Collectively, he spent five years in combat and was decorated by the French, Korean, South Vietnamese and U.S. governments for his actions.

He was with the 4th Infantry Division when it landed on Utah Beach on June 6, 1944. During operations to liberate Normandy, four of Liska's six-man 81mm mortar crew were killed. He participated in the liberation of Cherbourg and the Battle of St. Lo and many other campaigns immediately following the invasion.

Since World War II, Liska has returned almost annually to the cemetery at Omaha Beach to honor his comrades — the exceptions were in 1945, when he was training soldiers on their way to the Pacific Theater; 1965, when he was with the Vietnamese



Greg's great-great-great uncle — was part of the Army of the Potomac. The uncle, and his role at Gettysburg, was news to Greg.

The personal connection to the place suddenly piqued Hampton's interest, and he decided to research the battle to reveal similar connections for others. Besides learning more about his own relative, he learned about others who fought at Gettysburg, like Union PVT James Mahoney of the 147th New York Volunteers and Confederate MAJ Charles C. Blacknall of the 23rd North Carolina Volunteer Infantry.

Using detailed uniforms and the men's life stories as teaching tools, Hampton turns a battlefield tour into an exciting journey into the past for students at the Army Management Staff College, where he's a faculty member.

Students at Fredericksburg Christian Middle School, Va., where he volunteers, and visiting military members from other countries who request his time, also benefit from Hampton's enthusiastic presentation of the Battle of Gettysburg.



**Hampton: Bringing Gettysburg to life.**

First stop on Hampton's tour is near McPherson Ridge, west of town, where the first shots were fired. **Roy Eichhorn**, another AMSC faculty member, recently played the part of a professor at Gettysburg College and provided details about ordnance, logistics of the battle, and the town itself.

He explained that the individual weapons of the day required the men to stay in a mass and fire at the enemy from distances of less than 30 yards. There were artillery pieces that had ranges up to five miles, but no way to tell if the round hit its target.

Hampton detailed the various skirmishes pitched over the three days of fighting.

"The details bring Gettysburg to life," said Hampton, who pointed out depressions in the ground, near the site of a Confederate field hospital, where the fighting continued the afternoon of the first day. "Those depressions get green first every spring, because that's where the amputated limbs of the wounded were buried."

"I have been here eight or nine times before," said Australian BG Bill Mellor. "I have learned more today than in all my previous visits. Greg covered the fundamental strategy and the inspiration for this battle."

As the group reached the location of the third day's fighting, known as Pickett's Charge, Hampton led the group up a mile-long, slightly sloping hill, affording them the same perspective the 12,000 Confederate troops had as they charged into the relentless fire of the Union's massed artillery and muskets.

Historians estimate more than 43,500 men were killed, wounded, captured or missing in action after the three-day battle. The Confederacy never attacked in such magnitude again, and the battle became the turning point in the Civil War. — *Marcia L. Klein, Army Management Staff College*

*Using detailed uniforms and the men's life stories as teaching tools, Hampton turns a battlefield tour into an exciting journey into the past.*



**Liska: With President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1957 (right), and with GEN Colin Powell in 1989.**

22nd Inf. Div. as a military adviser; and in 1971, when he was on the demilitarized zone in Korea with the 7th Inf. Div.

Liska and his French-born wife, Raymonde, have two sons, both U.S. Air Force officers. — *MSG Larry Lane, 2nd Inf. Div. Public Affairs Office*



*Leader of the*

# Band

Story by Beth Reece  
Photos by Paul Disney

**J**AMES W. McGarity Jr. is a confiding, southern man with silver-speckled hair. Goaded by his dad the meat cutter, he cracked life's secret early on: find purpose, don't loaf.

"Sweep the floor, son. Don't just stand around with your hands in your pockets," Dad would holler to the idling boy over the can-stacked aisles of their family owned market in the '50s. The family was poor then, and Wednesdays were special, when a "closed" sign dangling from the door really meant "father and sons gone fishing."

But Tuesdays meant work, even for a schoolboy. On Tuesdays, McGarity learned the art of commitment, devoting himself to the brassy pitch of his beloved trumpet. "When I was in third grade, Mom and Dad took us to see a parade on Peachtree Street in Atlanta. That's when I knew I wanted to be a musician. Three weeks later my parents were talking to the school's music director."

Then the family started sacrificing so McGarity could take private, half-hour lessons for \$8 in a trade that would make sure he never lagged. In fact, he would always be hustling and soaring. He wrote history: one of the Army's top trumpet players, the Army's leading drum major, one of the longest-serving sergeants major America has ever known.

## Destiny Knocks

McGarity's musical flair bloomed in junior high and high school. At age 17, he suited up in black tails and a bow tie, starring once a month for half



a year at the Tower Theater with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Though underage, he played backup for Wayne Newton in Atlanta's dim, sooty Domino Lounge. And one year later he blew to the top trumpet slot in the University of Georgia's Dixie Redcoat Band.

Meanwhile, membership in Atlanta's Federation of Musicians landed McGarity in backup gigs with such budding stars as Dionne Warwick. Even the hotshots needed a hand. So while swooning fans drooled over record players, the lucky trumpeter blew background sounds for Johnny Rivers, Jan and Dean, Jerry Lee Lewis and the original Drifters.

"But I always wanted to be better than I was," McGarity said of himself as a college freshman. So he quit the books and took a job with airline caterer Dobbs House, starting off loading and unloading food trays.

At 19, McGarity married the girl who'd smiled and waved to him from her family's front porch whenever he delivered groceries as a boy. Then Dobbs House crowned him supervisor. And again, destiny knocked.

McGarity's bride was diagnosed with cancer. Hospital visits were perpetual and bills mounted. Friends eventually suggested he join the

service, guessing medical care would be good — and free. "So I went to Fort McPherson and auditioned for the post band." Within a couple of weeks he was soothed by the familiarity of first chair and his sick wife began treatment with military doctors.

### In the Army Now

The Army's support was generous over the next three years until doctors told McGarity his wife would get better care at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. His only ticket north was a rare, open slot with the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own." So the 22-year-old auditioned, blasting open doors with his trumpet. But victory dimmed when, in February 1970, his wife died.

Resiliently, McGarity clung to the band. "I liked performing with the Army and always wanted to be a drum major," he said. "When I first got here there were a lot of good trumpet players, but I was among the best. So being a drum major took a back seat."

Then came the golden day: the band's director put the drum major's mace into McGarity's yearning hands. "I had no training. They just said 'go out and do it.'" And he did, for 31

**McGarity joined the Army at age 20 in 1966 (above, left). Within weeks of his arrival at the 3rd U.S. Army Band at Fort McPherson, Ga., (above) he had assumed the "first chair" position in the organization's trumpet section.**

Above photos courtesy McGarity family

years after that day in March 1970.

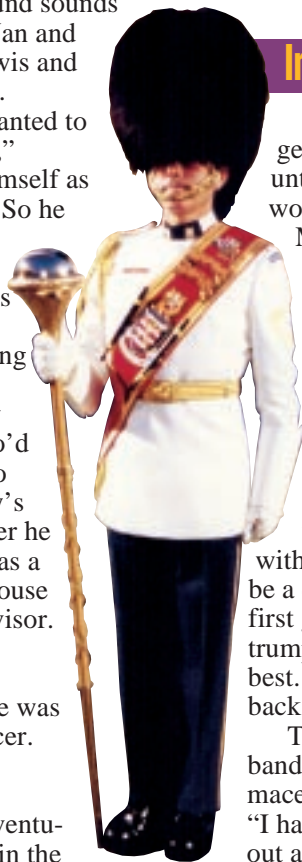
Today, the newly retired sergeant major spells luck with capital letters, having scored another success so rare it's unthinkable to most soldiers: for 21 years his shoulders carried the eight stripes and single star of the sergeants major corps. McGarity's time in grade makes him one of America's longest-serving sergeants major, and his Army career spanned 34 years.

"He is a legend," said trumpeter SFC Michael Cano, snapping his fingers to show how quickly the name "Jim McGarity" beckons a colorful sketch detailed by band members: friend, expert, reliable leader, artist, fair, warm, strong.

"Jim was born to be a drum major," said Debbie, his wife of 19 years — the woman who warmed McGarity's heart with a mug of hot chocolate after a winter rehearsal in 1982.

### A Drum Major's Life

The drum major attended his share of funerals. "That was the down side of my job, the really hard part," he said,







## Leader of the Band

having led the Ceremonial Band through too many Arlington National Cemetery funerals to count after just a few years on the job. He also navigated the band through White House and Pentagon arrival ceremonies, monthly retirement parades at Fort Myer and Fort McNair, and at wreath-laying ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

The dazzle of drum majoring beams at military tattoos, McGarity said, which recall the British and European traditions of bugles hailing soldiers back on post for the night. In such shows, McGarity rose as the Army's star, his chin imperiously tilted up so he could see out from beneath his two-foot bearskin hat.

Even retired, the drum major is in demand for these flashy productions. He charmed spectators at the Virginia International Tattoo in Norfolk in late April. This month he will perform at the International Marine Tattoo in Rochester, N.Y., and he's currently planning for the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Tattoo at Fort Monroe, Va., in September.

McGarity's fluid, white-gloved commands have been filmed across

America and abroad from Australia to Japan. "That means I've had to look the part and stay slim," said the 55-year-old. "In 30 years I've gone from a size 32 to only a size 35. I've seen some guys that look like they swallowed a watermelon. That makes me want to push the pecan pie away."

A routine that takes a band 8 to 10 hours to rehearse before its first performance takes McGarity two or three weeks to plan and script. Like a junkie, he watches final shows on video, rewinding and re-watching to soak in the audience's reaction.

"Debbie says we need a room just for my tapes." Videos line the white walls of McGarity's home office in the family's three-bedroom Colonial-style house in Arlington, Va. Newspaper clips and snapshots wallpaper the rooms; miniature drum majors clutter tables.

"You simply cannot walk into our house and not know that a drum major



**In addition to being the Army's top trumpet player and leading drum major, McGarity is — at 21 years in grade — one of the nation's longest-serving sergeants major.**

lives there," Debbie said, eyes rolling with the playful exasperation of a generally tolerant wife.

## A Legend's Style

McGarity is renown for slipping the slow, gliding movements of British drum majors into his own drills. But he admitted that his preference for imitating others made him a laughing stock at the 1990 Swedish Army Tattoo, where his group was third in the introduction line.

"The first two bands didn't march back to the formation the way we were all told to do and had rehearsed," he said. So the drum major spun his head around, instructing band members to forget what they'd practiced, to follow his lead instead.

After the band's debut, McGarity snapped a salute and called a forward march. "I took off, and out of the corner of my eye saw our commander pointing the opposite way, laughing. I had taken off one direction while the band went the other."

Band members still laugh at McGarity's expense. But they miss him, too. "Even when he was busy, he'd make eye contact with us and ask how we were doing, like he really cared," said SSG Harry Watters, the

Courtesy U.S. Army Band



**McGarity's fluid, white-gloved commands have been filmed across America and as far afield as Australia. His style mirrors the slow, gliding movements of British drum majors.**

jazz trombonist McGarity handpicked to be a guest soloist at tattoos in Australia and Norway. "He brings out the best in all of us."

Sending the drum major on his way is like bidding farewell to a final link to the past, Watters said of the man who is most remembered for the way his body moved.

"This is the end of an era. In the '60s and '70s we had fun making music, but today it's tempo-tempo-tempo," McGarity said. "Now the band's nine components collectively perform 6,000 shows a year. There's no time to take a bow anymore."

McGarity would still twirl the Army's coveted mace if age and length of service rules hadn't taken that choice away. "But I won't stop. I can't imagine life without music."

## Family Tradition

Most everyone the drum major loves is seduced by sound. His brother directs a high school band in Alabama and his mother was a vocalist. His wife Debbie, a master sergeant and woodwind group leader, has been a clarinetist with the U.S. Army Concert Band since 1977. The McGaritys share two sons and one daughter, who are following the family's musical tradition.

## Letting Go

"I'll be glad when this is all over with. I've been tearing up like this for a year now," Debbie admitted three weeks before the drum major's retirement day. Finales clouded the last 10 months of McGarity's active career: the last funeral, the last inauguration, the last "Spirit of America," the last ceremony. A huge crowd gave the McGaritys a standing ovation at his last concert, in March.

"I will never forget watching him in his drum major uniform when I first

got here," Debbie said. "He looked so good and was friendly to everybody. I loved watching him."

A week before his final day, McGarity braved a mike in the band's recording studio. Thirty-four years of Army experience taught him that a crowd can spy on a performer's soul. So he rehearsed — not the sound of a horn or a borrowed British move, but the final, bygone words of so long.

"What can I say on that day? Deep inside, my heart will be pounding and I'll know that I won't be a part of this again."

McGarity refuses to fade, even if all that's left of his career as the Army's top drum major is a legacy, a tattoo here and there.

"I couldn't have dreamed up a better plan for my life if I'd wanted to," he said. □



**Even retired, the drum major is in demand for military tattoos. He will perform at the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Tattoo at Fort Monroe, Va., in September.**



# Fueling the Force *on* *Okinawa*

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer

**A**S soldiers enter sprawling Kadena Air Base, the largest U.S. installation on Okinawa, the East China Sea glistens on one side of the island and the turquoise-blue Pacific Ocean meets the shore on the other side. And here and there, local farmers chop sugar cane as they harvest their crops.

The “Home of the U.S. Army” on Okinawa is located about 15 minutes away at Marine Corps-operated Torii Station, an installation best reached by zigzagging through Kadena. Married soldiers live on the base. Single soldiers live on Torii Station.







Collectively, there are only about 900 soldiers on Okinawa, said LTC Steven Hoffpauer, 10th Area Support Group deputy commander. They represent the smallest “footprint” of the joint U.S. forces on the island, but they also represent significant support. “If they weren’t here, the joint services’ training for real-life tactical missions would come to a halt,” Hoffpauer said.

The 63-member 505th Quartermaster Battalion — located at Chibana, an Air Force installation named for the surrounding community — is the only

**Only a small portion of the 33-mile-long pipeline operated by the 505th Quartermaster Battalion runs above ground.**

active-duty, terminal pipeline unit in the Army actually operating a pipeline. A similar active-duty unit is stationed at Fort Lee, Va., but it doesn’t have a pipeline, said SSG Tezslyn Johnson, the battalion’s lab NCOIC.

Some laugh at the battalion’s “Proud to Pump” motto but, as the sole provider of fuel to U.S. forces on the island the unit tested, stored and delivered some 91 million gallons to customers in fiscal year 2000, said Johnson. The battalion can collectively store up to 56 million barrels of fuel, pumping it to any of six tank farms close to the island’s piers.

SSG Mark Mason, terminal NCOIC for White Beach, site of the battalion’s only diesel fuel storage

**SSG Maxie Brown opens a valve that allows a ship off shore to dispense its fuel load into a valve box, from where it travels to a booster station and into the pipeline.**

tanks, from which Navy ships are supplied, monitored the roughly 100 miles of pipeline — three 33-mile, parallel lines — from the control room at Chibana.

Inside the control room, sensors monitor pressure in the pipeline and indicate maintenance requirements, while five detection systems alert soldiers to potential leaks in the system, which is 95 percent underground. Safety devices automatically shut down fuel valves if a leak is detected. “That’s important, because the pipeline runs through communities,



*The 505th Quartermaster Battalion is the sole provider of fuel to U.S. forces on the island. The unit tested, stored and delivered some 91 million gallons to customers in fiscal year 2000.*

**Barracks at Torii Station, the Army's home on Okinawa, overlook a beautiful beach on the ocean beyond.**



**The bustling city just outside the main gate of Kadena Air Base is full of shops, restaurants and traffic.**

in some cases under homes,” Mason said.

Before fuel is dispensed from ship to pipeline, 505th soldiers board the ship to collect samples, which are taken to one of two labs and tested for bottom-waste sediment.

The tests ensure the fuel hasn’t been contaminated en route to Okinawa, Johnson said. “And they provide a good representation of the fuel that will be downloaded into the pipeline.” The battalion also tests the fuel AAFES sells for privately owned vehicles.

Johnson said the battalion tested

more than 3,000 samples in fiscal year 2000.

While the 505th is more a battalion headquarters operation (supported by 150 local national employees), as opposed to a command-and-control pipeline (operated by line companies that can set up a pipeline hundreds of miles long), said Johnson, its soldiers perform a critical mission.

Should a contingency occur, in Korea or elsewhere in the Pacific, it’s reassuring to know the joint forces of the United States, on Okinawa, will be fueled and ready to respond, U.S. Army, Japan, officials said. □

## *The Army on Okinawa*

**A**MONG U.S. units on Okinawa are the 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group. With 400 soldiers, it’s the largest single Army contingent on the island. And it’s the only Army combat-arms battalion in Japan, said LTC Steven Hoffpauer, deputy commander of the 10th Area Support Group. *[See the story on the SF unit in the June issue of Soldiers.]*

Other Army units and Defense Department elements on Okinawa include the 10th ASG’s 835th Transportation Bn., which runs Naha Port, where all commercial and household goods enter the island; and the 58th Signal Bn., which provides strategic communications support and satellite control for the joint services; and elements of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Veterinary Command, Criminal Investigation Command, plus military intelligence and military police personnel.

Headquarters, Department of Defense Dependent Schools, Pacific, is also located on Okinawa.  
— Heike Hasenauer

# Around the Services

*Compiled by Gil High from service reports*



## Air Force

The Air Force is planning an avionics modernization for the C-130 Hercules transport. Included in the upgrade are a glass cockpit and heads-up display that allows pilots to gather information while looking outside the cockpit, digital displays to replace 1950s-era instrumentation, modern multi-function radar, new communications systems and new instruments that will be made compatible with night-vision goggles.



## Department of Defense

The first phase of DOD's new joint service advertising campaign features colorful poster ads designed to reach American families who may influence their children to join one of the armed services. The ads display a website, [www.todaysmilitary.com](http://www.todaysmilitary.com), which parents can use to access more information about military jobs and careers for their children, to include opportunities in the reserve components.



## Navy

The Navy's first and only midget submarine is now its newest outdoor exhibit at the Submarine Force Library and Museum in Groton, Conn. Built in 1955, the X1 Nautilus is about 50 feet long and was operated by five or six crewmembers. It was made to sneak into protected harbors on surveillance, commando and mining missions, and was the Navy's first experiment with air-independent propulsion, using hydrogen peroxide to create oxygen to fire its diesel engine without surfacing. After an explosion in 1957, the X1 was inactivated, then returned to duty as an experimental ship in Chesapeake Bay. It was decommissioned Feb. 16, 1973.



## Coast Guard

Founded Aug. 4, 1790, the Coast Guard is 211 years old this month. The Coast Guard's mission extends far beyond search and rescue, and includes anti-drug enforcement operations, port security, and polar navigation and exploration.



# Shaping Soldiers' Ca



**MSG James Bragg, chief instructor in the Army Recruiting and Retention School's Retention Department, demonstrates the skills needed during the sort of counseling session that can determine the course of a soldier's career.**

**W**HEN a soldier thinks he's in the Army simply to meet a time requirement, he starts thinking it's time he could spend doing something else," said SFC J.D. Riley, senior career management NCO at the Army's Recruiting and Retention School at Fort Jackson, S.C.

He's among the 765 career counselors worldwide who work with soldiers throughout their careers to ward off that idea.

Many people think the roles of career counselor, re-enlistment NCO and retention NCO are interchangeable, Riley said. "But there are distinct differences. Career counseling is a very important part of the retention process, beyond merely re-enlistment."

Retention and re-enlistment NCOs typically work in those capacities as an additional-duty assignment. Their training is usually limited to one week of instruction provided through the

school's Mobile Retention Training program, said MSG James Bragg, chief instructor in the school's Retention Department.

By comparison, career counselors are assigned to most battalion- and brigade-size units, full time, said SFC Roger Davis, another instructor at the school. They deploy with their units and usually serve as career counselors until they leave the Army.

At battalion level, they help soldiers plan their careers. At brigade level, they supervise subordinate career counselors and manage the brigade commander's retention program, Bragg said.

Under Army Regulation 601-280, Appendix C, career counselors must conduct periodic counseling sessions with soldiers to assess career progression, among other things, and provide information, options and recommendations.

A four-phase counseling approach under the Army Retention System

recommends they conduct problem-solving counseling within 30 days of the time a soldier is assigned to a particular unit, Davis said. "This ensures that soldiers' needs are being met."

A career-development counseling session is normally conducted within 30 to 60 days of unit assignment, followed soon after by an interview by the commander to gauge job performance and potential, Davis said.

The retention-phase interview occurs approximately 15 months before a soldier is due to ETS. At this time, counselors reiterate what the Army has to offer, such as re-enlistment bonuses, in hopes of obtaining a re-enlistment commitment.

"Learning about qualifications for re-enlistment options and bonuses, is, by itself, technically demanding," said Riley. "But I can bridge the gap between career development and ETS in about an hour. Retention is all about soldier development."

"We have to know a little about everything: finance, personnel, assignment policies, some legal aspects — including benefits upon leaving the service and opportunities available in the reserve component," Bragg added.

Career counselors advise soldiers about such career enhancers as earning education points for military and civilian education, gaining recognition through medals for special achievements and serving in diverse assignments.

"Soldiers who perform different jobs with varying degrees of responsibility show that the Army can challenge them with something new and they'll be successful," Riley said.

Career counselors additionally discuss a soldier's promotion potential in his or her present MOS.

"The soldier might not know that if he's in an over-strength MOS it's not good for him or the Army," Riley said. "When a soldier is facing that kind of obstacle to promotion, I encourage him to reclassify."

"Today it's 'up' or 'out' of the Army," he added. "So career progression is extremely important. When you tell a soldier he can't go to the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, for example, because he's deployed, you need to have someone who can ensure that he will go."

"People say career counselors don't contribute in contingency operations," Riley said. "But soldiers who are away from home station need us more than ever. And we've always been taken to the fights."

The fact is, "Just as soldiers need chaplains for spiritual support, they need career counselors for career support," he said.

SFC Timothy Wallace, a career counselor assigned to Headquarters and HQs Company, 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, arrived in Kosovo last December. As senior theater

career counselor, he visited soldiers at all the base camps in the region, including Camp Able Sentry in Macedonia.

Doing his job in the deployed environment is challenging, Wallace said, "because soldiers may respond to a riot in the morning and meet with me a few hours later to talk about staying in the Army."

"There are a lot of 'fence-sitters' here who can't decide whether to stay in or get out," Wallace continued. "Many arrive here and see the devastation. Then they realize the people are the same as you and me, only in a devastated land. Suddenly, it hits them that they're doing something they couldn't do in civilian life — improve these people's lives."

Besides that, Wallace said, soldiers walk into his office every day with finance problems. Some question whether they should stay in the Army because they've been told they could be making more money on the outside.

"I tell them, 'Hey, you can't make

\$100,000 without an education or a skill,'" Wallace said.

He and his subordinates tell those soldiers about setting up IRAs and show them what they can do after 15 years of growth.

"We bring their families into the picture, too, showing them they can make a good life in the Army. I tell them that getting out on a dream isn't the best way to go," he said.

Many come into Wallace's office without a full plan, he said. Recently, a soldier considered ETSing because his brother-in-law offered him a job. "Sometimes we encourage soldiers to take leave before ETSing to find out exactly what the situation is."

"It's not just about keeping soldiers in the Army, but getting them to want to stay," Wallace said. "We're not the reason soldiers reenlist; commanders are. We're here to help the commanders. And we're not about numbers — if you take care of soldiers, the numbers will take care of themselves." □



**Interviewing is a key part of the career counselor's job, and students are instructed in the most effective techniques. Here, instructor SFC Richard F. Jones evaluates students' interviewing skills by videotape.**





**SSG Keith L. Smith (left)** of 1st Battalion, 319th Field Artillery, Fort Bragg, N.C., interviews **SSG Gary R. Avins** of 2nd Squadron, 211th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Irwin, Calif., as the two students practice a counseling session.

# Career Counselor Qualifications

**TO qualify for the Career Counselor program soldiers must be promotable sergeants with less than 8 years in service and have completed BNCOC, or be staff sergeants with less than 10 years in service and less than two years time in grade, said SFC J.D. Riley, senior career management NCO at the Army's Recruiting and Retention School at Fort Jackson, S.C.**

**"In the '80s a lot of people ended up in the military occupational specialty because they had a physical profile that prevented them from being deployed," Riley said. "Today you can't be a career counselor if you have a physical profile." The exception is someone who was already working in the MOS when he or she was injured.**

**Soldiers acquire the title Career Counselor and MOS 79S by completing the eight-and-a-half week Basic Career Counselor Course at the Recruiting and Retention School. The school's curriculum also includes the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course and the Mobile Retention Training program.**

**Some 100 students graduate from the basic course annually, Riley said. — Heike Hasenauer**



**At Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknowns, SFC Alan Marinoff (left) takes the oath of re-enlistment from MAJ Joseph Dichairo as the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) career counselor, SFC Cary Potts, holds the flag.**

## *Operation Van Buren*

*Feb. 8, 1966*



SSG Gilbert L. Meyers

A South Vietnamese interpreter questions the wife of a Viet Cong suspect as members of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, watch. The infantrymen are members of a relief force on its way to relieve another unit under Viet Cong attack. The operation was conducted to prevent rice harvests from falling under Viet Cong control.





U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory

# Army Transforming America

## *Crime Scene Investigations*

**W**HEN people enter military service, they give up one important element of their individuality — their fingerprints. These prints, which can be used to identify a soldier's remains, are collated and stored in the world's largest fingerprint repository at the FBI center in Clarksburg, W.Va. Few people realize, however, that the history of FBI forensics research begins with a former Army doctor.

Calvin H. Goddard inaugurated the science of firearm identification and cofounded the Bureau of Forensic Ballistics, in New York City, in 1925. Goddard's assistant, Philip O. Gravelle, adapted a comparison microscope to help match fired bullets with their cartridge casings. In 1929 Goddard used these advances to link weapons with bullets used in Chicago's "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" gangland killing. Goddard went on to train many of the first forensic scientists, including the first person to staff the FBI laboratory, and he set up several other forensics laboratories around the nation. These included the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory-Pacific, which he established in 1948 after returning to the Army.

Goddard's fundamental concepts of using science to serve justice continue today at the Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory, now located at Fort Gillem, Ga. The CID lab itself has further developed the tools first used in forensic science some three-quarters of a century ago. CID researchers refined the process of "superglue fuming," which the Army adopted from Japanese researchers in the 1970s. Police worldwide now use the technique to uncover fingerprints on such nonporous items as knives, guns, plastic bags and bottles. The Army Crime Lab has also advanced a laser technique to enhance fingerprints on paper and cardboard items, and introduced the first laser-developed fingerprints to be used as evidence in an American court.

In the thousands of criminal cases that go to trial each year, fingerprints and firearm ballistic evidence are two of the most common tools used to positively link persons to a crime. Because of the pioneering efforts of the Army's CID, and individual researchers such as COL Calvin H. Goddard, the task of identifying suspects and convicting the guilty parties can be accomplished more quickly and accurately. — *CPT Patrick Swan*